MOSCOW (R) — A Soviet spokesman said Saturday conditions were not yet right for immediate reestablishment of diplomatic relations with Israel although Moscow no longer set any pre-conditions. Foreign Ministry spokesman Vitaly Churkin confirmed at a news conference that Moscow no longer insisted that a Middle East peace conference get under way with Israeli participation before restoration of relations, severed in 1967. Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze first signalled the shift in Soviet policy during a joint news conference in Washington last Wednesday with Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir. "It is true that there are no pre-conditions, but such an important act must be accompanied by a developing process and Mr. Shevardnadze said so with Prime Minister 'Churkin said. "I am not saying we are ready to restore relations now, but there are no pre-conditions." In his statement in Washington, Shevardnadze said Moscow was moving towards restoring full diplomatic ties with Israel and that completing the process was only a matter of time (Iraq assalls Moscow, page 2).

do History by the Jordan Press Foundation An independent Arab political daily public جوردان تايمز يومية سياسي تصدر المجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية والراي،

Võiunteers train to defend Iraq

BAGHDAD (R) — A new group of Arab volunteers started training in military camps Saturday to defend Iraq in case of war over Kuwait, the Iraqi News Agency reported. The volunteers pledged to "protect the Arab homeland, drive out the American and Zionist invaders... and teach them lessons in sacrifice," INA said. Badreddin Muddathar, an official of the pan-Arab organisation of the Basth Party, told the volunteers the expected battle "will decide all the Arab Nation's battles because it unifies the ranks of the Arab Nation... to face the Zionists and American renemies." The agency did not give the number or nationalities of the volunteers. Earlier groups were mostly Egyptians and Sudanese. Egypt has sent troops to the U.S.-led coalition confronting Iraq over Kuwait but thousands of Egyptians work in Iraq. Some of them served in Iraqi army during the 1980-88 war with Iran. The vice-chairman of the ruling ionary Command Council, Izzat Ibrahim, told visiting members of the Libyan-based World Popular Islamic Leadership that "the United States will not, as it claims, settle this battle in a matter of days or weeks. We will fight this war for long years."

Volume 15 Number 4574

AMMAN SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1990, JUMA'DAH Al-ULA 28, 1411

Price: Jordan 90 fils; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams

Dutch join march against war

AMSTERDAM (R) — Thousands of people staged a noisy but peaceful march through central Amsterdam Saturday to protest against the military build-up in the Gulf. Protesters waved banners reading "No blood for oil" and "No war in the Gulf' as they made their way from the central Dam Square to the U.S. consulate in the south of the city. A police spokesman estimated the crowd at 3,000. One man was arrested after trying to scale the fence surrounding the consulate, he added. Other protesters carried placards calling on Defence Minister Relus Ter Beek to recall Dutch warships from the Gulf. The Netherlands has sent two frigates to the area.

Fundamentalists win Mauritania polls

NOUAKCHOTT (AP) — Islamic fundamentalists won 21 of 37 council seats in Nouakchott, the capital and only major city, according to official results Saturday from Mauritania's first multiparty elections. The first round of municipal voting was held Dec. 7, and a second round took place Friday. Official results from smaller communities were not immediately available. In Nouakchott, where an estimated 700,000 of Mauritania's 1.6 million people live, the Choura movement of Islamic fundamentalists won 21 seats on the city council. It was followed by Democracy and Unity, a coalition that encompasses black nationalists and communists, which won 10 seats. A third group, espousing a pan-Arab platform, won three seats. Only 90.000 Nouakchott residents registered for election, but the icial turnout figure was

Hundreds of German spies lurking around, prosecutor says

released Saturday.

BONN (AP) - Germany's top lawman believes that 500 to 600 secret agents from former East Germany have yet to be found, a newspaper reported Saturday. In the past several months, authorities have arrested dozens of former East German spies who had been planted in various government offices in former West Germany. But federal prosecutor Alexander von Stahl said he believes up to 600 ex-operatives have managed to elude the united government's spy net, according to an interview published in the Bild am Sonntag newspaper.

Mubrak names new minister

CAIRO (R) - President Hosni Mubarak promoted a junior minister to education minister Saturday to replace Ahmad Fathi Sourour, who was chosen speaker of Egypt's newly elected parliament two days ago. A presidential decree, reported by Egypt's Middle East News Agency, said Adel Ezz would take over the education portfolio but retain his job as minister of state for scientific research.

'Peace boat' sails through Suez Canal

CAIRO (R) - A 'peace boat' carrying 150 women taking medicine and milk powder to Iraq sailed through the Suez Canal Saturday heading for the Gulf, canal sources said. They said the 11,333-ton Iragiregistered Ibn Khaldoun, which docked off Port Said Friday. entered the canal from the Mediterranean and was on its way to the Red Sea. Egypt's national Middle East News Agency (MENA) said it paid \$50,000 in transit tolls. The ship set out from Tunis a week ago and docked in Libya last Monday before heading for Egypt. The voyage was organised by Arab women's unions with the aim of breaking a United Nations trade embargo on Iraq being enforced by Western warships in the Red Sea and the Gulf. The Ibn Khaldoun is due to stop at Sudanese, Yemeni and Omani ports before heading for

King, Arafat discuss Arab dialogue

AMMAN (J.T.) - His Majesty King Hussein and Palestinian President Yasser Arafat Saturday discussed the latest developments in the Gulf crisis and followed up the question of in-itiating Arab-Arab dialogue to help settle the issue.

The Jordan News Agency, Petra, said the meeting at the Royal Court, shortly after Arafat's arrival in Amman, was attended by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, Royal Court Chief Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker, the King's Political Adviser Adnan Abu Odeh and Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem. On the Palestinian side the meeting was attended by Abdul Razzaq Al Yahya, Maha-moud Darwish, Mohammad Milhem, Hakam Bal'awi and Palestine Ambassador to Jordan Al Tayeb Abdul Rahim.

Upon his arrival, Arafat voiced his support for the King's call for Arab-Arab dialogue. The King's call, he said, expressed the views of Iraq, Yemen, Jordan and Palestine.

"Any international solution to

ers of the European Community

(EC) ended a two-day summit

here Saturday with a call on Iraq

to withdraw from Kuwait to

avert a war in the region. They

also reaffirmed their support for

an international peace confer-

ence on the Arab-Israeli con-

\$2.1 billion in emergency aid for the Soviet Union and issued a

statement that brought Britain

into the movement towards

The EC leaders approved a

resolution calling for an interna-

tional neace conference on the

Middle East "at the appropriate

time" and expressing concern

about increasing violence in the

Israeli-occupied territories.

European Union.

The EC leaders also approved

(Continued on page 5)



His Majesty King Hussein Saturday confers with Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat (photo by Yousef

Israel seals off Gaza; 1,000 reportedly arrested

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Israeli troops sealed off the occupied Gaza Strip Saturday and lawyers said up to 1.000 Palestinians were arrested in the hunt for suspects in the killings of three Israelis at a Tel

Aviv factory.

Right-wing Likud member of parliament Yehuda Perah demanded the government allow security forces to shoot Palestimans who carried out such killings, even if they surrendered, Israel Radio said.

Housing Minister Ariel Sharon, architect of Israel's invasion of Lebanon in 1982, said the wave of attacks against Israelis could be stopped only by force. Eight Israelis have been killed since police shot dead at least 20

Palestanians in Jerusalem Oct.

EC calls for Iraqi pullout,

urges Mideast conference

tion of Kuwait and said they

remained committed to United

Nations resolutions calling on

Iraq to withdraw.
"The responsibility lies on the

Iraqi government to ensure

peace for its people by com-

plying fully with the demands of

the United Nations Security

Council including complete

withdrawal from Kuwait by Jan.

15," they said in a statement.

approved the use of force to

expel Iragi forces from the emi-

rate if they are not withdrawn by

French President François

Mitterrand said Iraq was risking war with the U.S.-led multina-

tional force in the Gulf by failing

The United Nations has

"No political solution for peace will be achieved even for a day as long as the Arab(s)... feel daily victory by killing Jews,"

Sharon told army radio. The Gaza Bar Association said between 600 and 1,000 people, among them many prominent academics, had been detained in a sweep by Israeli forces through the strip.

An army spokeswoman would not comment on the reported arrests but said the strip was a closed military area.

She said curfews had been imposed on five refugee camps, two towns and one district of Gaza City. Curfews were also clamped on three camps in the West Bank. The West Bank towns of Tulkarm and Qalqilya were declared closed military

putting back to a very late

date... an exchange of views

which could be very profitable is

very damaging to peace," he

"If there is no movement, we

wili reach Jan. 15 and I cannot

believe that Iraq is not seriously

considering the fate it is risking,

which would obviously com-

promise the region of the world

British Prime Minister John

Major, attending his first summit

since replacing Margaret

Thatcher last month, said the

statement showed the EC was

(Continued on page 5)

The EC leaders dealt with the

remaining firm on the Gulf.

told a news conference.

in which it is situated."

Sources said troops had sealed off the strip by land and sea. Palestinians in the West Bank

said nearly 50 people sympathetic to the Islamic fundamentalist Hamas movement had been detained there during the night after three Israelis were stabbed to-death at a Tel Aviv suburban factory Friday.

Security sources said the arrests were continuing.

Police said Palestinians knifed a woman and two men at the factory on Friday morning. Slogans spray-painted on the walls of the plant ascribed the killings to Hamas, a leading force in the three-year-old Palestinian upris-

In Rafah in the strip, during a march Friday to mark the third

U.S. church leaders plan peace

NICOSIA (AP) - A delegation of 18 U.S. church leaders said Saturday they were embarking on a "peace pilgrimage" to avert

war over the Gulf crisis. "I think it is true that this is the first time that this kind of effort is being made before a war has begun, to prevent its out-break," said Edmond L. Brown-

Browning and other delegation members told a news conference they would stress the inter-relationship of the Gulf crisis with other outstanding Middle East problems.

"We are deeply, deeply concerned over the possibility of war and we hope and pray we can participate in the process that can help alleviate this possi-

bility," he added.
"We also feel that for us, as religious leaders, to remain silent, or to choose, not to do anything between now and the 15th of January would be abdicating our leadership role as religious people," said Bishop

the use of force if Iraq does not

three groups. One will visit Iraq. another Israel and the third Lebanon and Syria for talks with local church and political lead-

They will hold a press conference on their return to New

but we come with the feeling that by actively engaging the situation, just maybe we could help avert war," Talbert said.

"We must negotiate, rather than go to war, this is our bottom line position" said the Rev. Joan Campbell, general secretery-elect of the National Council of the Churches of

"We will urge (Iraqi President) Saddam Hussein and our own president, in every way we can, using the influence that we

(Continued on page 4)

Iraq says Aziz-Bush talks on Dec. 17 are off

Saddam: Palestine issue has priority Saddam pledged Iraq would and insisted Iraq will set the date BAGHDAD (Agencies) — Iraq

said Saturday that Foreign Minister Tareq Aziz would not meet U.S. President George Bush on Monday as proposed but added it still wanted serious dialogue.

Information Minister Latif Nassif Al Jassem said there was no chance of a Dec. 17 meeting but left open the possibility of a compromise on new dates for the first direct talks between Baghdad and Washington since the Gulf crisis erupted.

But President Saddam Hussein, who demands that any direct talks with Washington address all Middle East issues. said the Palestinian question should be discussed before Iraq's takeover of Kuwait.

He told an Islamic delegation: "If we were told, let us discuss the Gulf issue within the (framework of) international law and then we discuss the Palestinian question, we would tell them if petrol is more important to you, Jerusalem is more important to us and each nation's

priority should be respected."

would fight to defeat whatever armies were massed against it. "I promise you that we will

not think of using arms in an casy way, but if we were forced to fight, we will fight with all the meanings of Arab and Islamic honour... and the unjust people will be defeated whatever the number of their armies and weapons are." he said in a speech reported by Baghdad Television.

Saddam also attacked Syria for the first time since Damascus ioined the U.S-dominated multinational force in the Gulf region.

...How can the rulers of Syria speak about international legitimacy? Have they respected international legitimacy?

Aziz was due to fly to Washington this weekend, but Jassem told the British Broadcasting Corporation that there was no possibility of the meeting taking place.

Earlier Saturday, Iraq's Revolutionary Command Council (RCC) accused Bush of lying

not lightly resort to arms but for any direct talks in Baghdad. "Iraq alone has the right to fix dates for foreign officials to meet

its president," the council said in a statement carried by the Iraqi News Agency. Washington has rejected Jan. 12 as the date of talks in Baghdad between Saddam and U.S. Secretary of State James Baker. Baker, saying it was too close to the Jan. 15 U.N. deadline for

Iraq to withdraw from Kuwait. We have offered 15 dates and (Iraq) ought to get moving and accept one, Bush said in Washington Friday.

INA said an RCC spokesman accused Bush of lying about proposing 15 dates.

"The American President Bush only proposed two options either for the meeting to be held on 20, 21 or 22 of Dec. or on Jan. 3, which we said were not appropriate," the spokes-

"Those who want peace should not make noises about

(Continued on page 5)

Benjedid and Assad discuss Gulf crisis

DAMASCUS (Agencies) — Algerian President Chadli Benjedid opened talks Saturday with Syrian President Hafez Al Assad on ways of finding an Arab solution to the Gulf crisis.

Presidential spokesman Joubran Kourieh told Reuters Assad and the Algerian leader held a private meeting at the presidential palace after a session which was attended by their aides.

"The talks dealt with the Arab situation in general and the Gulf crisis and its developments in particular," Kourieh said. He gave no further details.

Benjedid, touring the Middle East to rally support for a peaceful solution to the Gulf crisis. arrived in Damascus Saturday from Oman.

He has been to Baghdad for talks with Iraqi President Sad-

Saudi Arabia has been cool to

dam Hussein, visited Jordan and Iran and, according to Egyptian government sources in Cairo. has added Egypt to his schedule.

his mission and it is unclear whether he will go there as well. Syria, Egypt and Saudi Arabia are the main Arab participants in the U.S.-led alliance opposing

Algeria opposes both the occupation of Kuwait and the deployment of foreign forces in the Gulf. In Muscat, Beniedid held

talks with Sultan Qaboos, the chairman of the six-member Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC).

Omani Foreign Minister Yousef Ben Alawi, speaking in Muscat after Benjedid's departure, said that he hoped the Algerian president's tour would enable "Arab leaders to reach a consensus to help the Guif avert a future catastrophe."

The Algerian leader was still in the stage of exchanging views with his Arab counterparts and "not in the stage of (peace) formulas." Ben Alawi added in statements distributed by the offi-

cial Oman News Agency. On Friday, the Omani minister said Benjedid's trip was very important under the extremely sensitive circumst-

"It can be said that optimism

about the Gulf crisis is now

(Continued on page 4)

Morocco says 2 killed, 200 injured in riots

in Fez and other cities during a wage. general strike. Two people were killed and about 200 injured, authorities said Saturday Both deaths occurred in Fez.

during Friday's one-day strike. A policeman was fatally stabbed and a man was crushed to death by stampeding protesters during 1984, when more than 100 peoa police charge, according to an official communique.

Union officials said more than 25 people were killed, but the claim could not be confirmed. Fez and other cities were re- or guests. Rescue teams plucked ported calm Saturday.

The union officials, who were seeking higher wages, said 80 per cent of workers observed their strike call. The government had discouraged the strike with a banning order, and it appeared mainly to have affected Fez.

The government said only about 50 of the country's 10,000 businesses and factories were Merinides. idled by the strike.

MAP, said gangs of looters the mob wrecked the hotel and armed with chains and iron bars stole everything," said Christian ransacked stores, banks and Lenzer, a Christian Democrat. public buildings in Fez, the country's religious capital.

Friday's strike was called by Morocco's two trade union fed- down a smoke-filled corridor to

RABAT (Agencies) - Police vailleurs Marocains (UGTM), to clashed with protesters and loo-ters armed with chains and bars doubling the legal minimum

Witnesses said most of the rioters were aged from 15 to 25. Many were from Fez University, scene of recent clashes between the scene of the worst violence left-wing and Islamic fundamentalist students.

It was the worst street violence in Morocco since January ple died in bread riots. MAP said several hotels in

Fez. 150 kilometres east of Rabat, were set ablaze but there were no casualties among staff some from the flames.

One hotel, the Merinides, a 200-room landmark on a hill overlooking the old city, was burned down.

A member of the West German parliament on holiday with his wife said they spent eight hours hiding in their room while rioters looted and burned the

"It was a nightmare. It was The national news agency, hell. We hid in our room while

He said someone broke down the door of their room Friday afternoon and they escaped erations, the Confederation take refuge in another room with Democratique du Travail (CDT) two Spanish honeymoon couand the Union Generale des Tra-ples.

Democrats debate war option in

Saudi desert SAUDI ARABIA (AP) - The Senate debate on whether to use ited Nations' Jan. 15 deadline or give economic sanctions more time to work moved to the desert Saturday when seven Democratic senators toured troop

positions. "Everyone is weighing it very carefully. There are few that prematurely want to take a decision ahead of the president," said Sen. Charles S. Robb of

Virginia. The group, organised by Senate majority leader George Mitchell of Maine, was scheduled to meet King Fahd later Saturday in the Red Sea port of Jeddah. It included senators Paul Simon of Illinois, Robert Graham of Florida, Richard Shelby of Alabama, Richard Bryan of Nevada and Herbert Kohl of Wisconsin.

Their tour is also to include stops in Cairo Sunday and Monday, when they are to meet President Hosni Mubarak, as well as a visit to Israel Tuesday for talks with Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir.

While opinion among the Democrats on the wisdom of using force varied, the general consensus was that the situation had moved closer to war this week as the United States and Iraq deadlocked over a date for U.S. Secretary of State James Baker to visit Baghdad to meet with Iraqi President Saddam Hussein. They also supported Bush's tough talk against Iraq.

"My sense is that the prospects of war are greater than they were two weeks ago in large part because of the way in which (Iraq) is using the meeting as a form of manipulation rather than serious discussion," said Graham. Simon, a member of the Sen-

ate Foreign Relations Committee, came out most strongly against the war option if Iraq ignored the United Nations deadline of Jan. 15 to withdraw from Kuwait or face war.

"The question is do you pursue sanctions with troop rotations or do you move militarily. My own inclination would be to bave sanctions with rotations," said Simon, who added that it might mean delaying the fight for a .VCSF OF HIGHE.

But others said sanctions might not have the desired effect.

"Though clearly sanctions are working in an economic sense, they may not convince Saddam Hussein to withdraw from Kuwait no matter what time frame is involved," said Robb also on the Foreign Relations

See related stories on pages 7 and to set a date for talks offered by The leaders repeated their Washington. Iraqi doctor says children died for lack of medicine BAGHDAD (Agencies) - The In an interview with Reuters. director of a Baghdad children's Kirma said a boy aged between ty said Saturday it received 22 hospital said Saturday four pa- one and two had died because tonnes of medical supplies from tients had died from lack of doctors had to treat septicaemia

Jan. 15.

blockade of Iraq. Dr. Emil Kirma said his 130bed Alwiya Hospital was operat- died because cloxaciline was not delivered by an Italian delega-

was short of medicine, equipment and food. Kirma said although medicine was excluded from the trade sanctions, the U.S. and British

ships carrying medicine from reaching Iraq. trade may have delayed some end of December and no more

medicine shipments. The Iraqi government says of shortage of medicine, food and baby milk.

Kirma-said his hospital had run out of some types of antibiotics such as cephalosporine and ampoules and many spare parts for equipment.

The supply of disposable

syringes was almost gone and

doctors were short of many

drugs and cutting down on pre-

proper medicines following the with garamicin instead of pyopen.

ing at half capacity because it available, he said. Doctors had tion are medicines for children, to use ampicillin, which was less effective.

Kirma said two children suffering from acute diarrhoea had died because they needed isomil, He said the Health Ministry had already supplied his hospit-

was available. "We have a terrible situa-1,400 children have died since tion." he said. "Children are

Iraq said Friday the United. Nations Children's Fund had sent 28 tonnes of medicine. It been held by some countries pyopen, insulin, anaesthetic was the latest of several shipments from humanitarian orga- imposed on Iraq after its Aug. 2 nisations, foreign governments invasion of Kuwait.

and other groups. Asked about these, Kirma said they were not adequate for received at least 70 tonnes of a population of 18 million and medical supplies since midnot always what was needed.

The Iraqi Red Crescent Societhe Italian Red Cross Society. Dr. Amid Abdul Hamid, de-

puty chief of the Iraqi society. A pneumonia sufferer had said the bulk of the supplies On Saturday the Baghdad

Observer, an English-language daily, quoted Nahlah Ibrahim, a children's hospital manager in Baghdad, also as saying that governments were stopping a special kind of sensitised milk. many babies are suffering from malnutrition and a lack of medicine. He said a lack of potassium Diplomats say the ban on al's allocation of medicine till the and sodium-based medicines threaten the lives of children

suffering from diarrhoea. Abdul Hamid said various Red Cross societies have sent sanctions were imposed because very ill and need proper antibio- more than 50 tonnes of medicine to tics but we don't have first-line Iraq. He did not give a time frame for the deliveries.

Iraq has complained that large shipments of medicine have because of the U.N. sanctions

However, earlier this month diplomats contended Iraq had

pilgrimage

ing, the presiding bishop of the U.S. Episcopal Church.

Melvin Talbert of the United Methodist Church.

Jan. 15 is the deadline set by the U.N. Security Council for withdraw from Kuwait.

The delegation will split into

York on Dec. 21. "We don't come with a plan,

Christ.

U.N. president to visit refugee camps, emphasises need for peace conference

UNITED NATIONS (AP) -The General Assembly president has followed up a call for sanctions against Israel with the announcement that he would visit Palestinian refugee camps in Jordan and the Israeli-occupied territories early next month.

It would be the first time the president of the General Assembly had visited the camps, U.N. officials said.

General Assembly President Guido de Marco, addressing a news conference before the end of the assembly next week, also said that an international peace conference on the Middle East "should become a reality."

De Marco, the foreign minister of Malta, spoke one day after the 159-member assembly voted overwhelmingly to call for sanctions against Israel for occupation of Arab territories. It also called, as in previous years, for an international peace confer-

General Assembly resolutions, however are not legally binding. But they carry moral weight as the expression of the will of the international community, especially in the postcold war era when the United States and the Soviet Union are cooperating on many issues.

Security Council resolutions are considered legally binding, and the United States recently

has been trying to remove any reference to a Mideast peace conference from the heart of a resolution providing more protection for the Palestinians. U.S. officials say that Iraq might misinterpret a call for a Mideast peace conference as linkage to

its invasion of Kuwait. The United States and nonaligned members of the council apparently are at an impasse over U.S. efforts to remove the passage on the conference. although it mirrors U.S. policy about an eventual meeting. Negotiations are continuing. however, and the council is to meet again Monday.

Some Arab members have indicated that if the stalemate persists in the council they would try to raise the issue in the General Assembly and seek endorsement from all members on protecting Palestinians and calling for a peace conference.

De Marco indicated that he did not want to see any contradiction between the assembly and the council and hoped that the issue would be resolved, without recourse to the

At his news conference Friday, de Marco said he would visit Palestinian refugee camps in an effort to highlight the plight of refugees living in the

occupied territories.
"We must give the human

Iraq criticises Moscow's move towards full relations with Israel

BAGHDAD (Agencies) -- A government newspaper said Saturday that the Soviet Union had capitulated and had sold out its Arab friends by moving towards full diplomatic relations

The Baghdad Observer, a government owned Englishlanguage daily, linked the move to Moscow's opposition to the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait and Soviet support for the international sanctions against Iraq.

"The Soviet Union's backing down from its international obligations cannot be described but as a sell out of its Arab friends which is also vividly clear in its handling of the Gulf crisis, the newspaper said in an edito-

Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze met Wednesday with Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Sahmir in Washington and said later the two countries were moving to-wards restoring full ties. The Soviet Union severed relations

with Israel in 1967. Shevardnadze also said resumption of full ties no longer depends on any Soviet preconditions, such as Israeli participation in a Middle East peace

conference. The Baghdad Observer said the Soviet Union has been considered an Arab friend and the

main supporter of the Third World, but that now it seems to have dropped "all its declared policies because of Western and Zionist pressure."

Iraqi media have been critical of the Soviet Union recently because of its denunciation of the Kuwait invasion. Iraq media also have accused Moscow of being subservient to the United States in the Gulf crisis.

"It's regrettable that a country friendly to Arabs is giving up such a friendship and turning its back to the mutual interests of both Arabs and the Soviets," the Observer said.

In Ankara, Shevardnadze warned Friday that a Gulf war would be costly and asked for all means to be used for a peaceful solution.

"I have knowledge of the military potential in the region," he told reporters at the end of a two-day visit to Turkey. "Therefore I can imagine the dimensions of the catastrophe that will take

"I even try to reafrain from

uttering the word war," Shevardnadze said.

He said he still had hope that the Iraqi leadership would withdraw from Kuwait. Shevardnadze said he also hoped that the meeting of U.S. Secretary of State James Baker with Iraqi President Saddam Hussein would have a good result.

He arged that a date for the meeting be set and the talks take place as soon as possible.

In a news conference before his departure for Moscow. Shevardnadze said it was important to find a solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict and the Palestinian problem once the Gulf crisis is ended.

The Soviet Union Wednesday asked for the postponement of a U.N. resolution endorsing a Mideast peace conference until after Shevardnadze meets with Yasser Arafat, chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

There were news reports that the Soviet minister and Arafat would meet in Ankara but Turks did not want it, apparently for fear that it would overshadow their own meetings with Shevardnadze on expanding bilater-

British news reports implicate 'Libyan' in Pan Am bomb

LONDON (AP) - A London newspaper Saturday quoted sources clsoe to the investigation into the 1988 Pan Am flight 103 bombing as saying Libyan secret agents acting at the request of Palestinians may have planted the bomb.

The Guardian quoted the unidentified sources as saying Ahmad Jibril's Popular Front for Liberation of Palestine-General Command (PFLP-GC) probably turned to Libya after German police broke up one of its cells in Frankfurt a few months before

The Guardian described its

sources as saying proof was based on analysis of a detonator fragment found in a field close to the southern Scottish town of Lockerbie. It said the evidence had come to light only in past three months.

against Libya could alienate Arab members of the U.S.-led multinational force opposing Iraq in the Gulf and for that reason no indictments had been issued against the major sus-

The Independent quoted its source as saying that the detona-tor fragment was identical to one found in a radio-cassette bomb seized from two Libyan secret agents arrested at Dakar airport in Senegal in February 1988.

It quoted one of its sources as saying: "Not only do we now know Qadhafi was responsible, he also knows we know."

The Boeing 747 was blown up over Lockerbie on Dec. 21, 1988 while on its way to New York. All 259 people on board and 11 others on the ground were killed. The flight originated in Frankfurt, Germany, changing planes at London's Heathrow

Investigators have said a bomb hidden in a radio-cassette recorder was responsible for the explosion.

A public inquiry into the bombing opened at Dumfries near Lockerbie on Oct. 1. It was adjourned on Dec. 7 until Jan.

The Guardian reported Saturday: "The assumption until three months ago was that the bomb planted by the remnants of the Frankfurt cell and that it was of the same type found by German police - semtex explosive to be triggered by an altimeter sensitive to height ... in a Toshiba radio-cassette recorder.

"Investigators now believe that the trigger was a simple in the luggage of two Libyan agents arrested in Dakar in 1988

MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

Five wounded in attacks

BEIRUT (R) - Gunmen attacked three Beirut offices of the right-wing Falange Party at dawn on Saturday, wounding five people, security sources said. No group claimed responsibility for the attacks, carried out with rocket-propelled grenades, in the Christian districts of Tahonita, Idaideh and Ain Remman Falange-run radios have accused rival pro-Syrian Christian militiamen of being responsible for several similar attacks since the Lebanese army took control of a militia-free Beirut 12 days ago. The Falange was evicted from areas then controlled by rebel General Michel Aoun when he started a war against the party's ally, the Lebanese Forces (LF) militia, in January. Aoun was toppled on Oct. 13 after Syrian aircraft bombed his bunker in east Beirut. The Falange returned in November under a plan to reunite the Lebanese capital and took over their former offices.

Velayati's visit to Moscow postponed :::

MOSCOW (R) - Soviet and Iranian authorities have postponed a visit to Moscow this weekend by Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said Saturday. Spokesman Vitaly Churkin said the visit had been put off because of diplomatic commitments on both sides. No new date was set Churkin said the two sides were in close contact on major issues, including the Gulf crisis.

Canada abstains on Cyprus vote

UNITED NATIONS (AP) - Canada called Friday for mandatory assessment of peacekeeping fees for Cyprus, instead of voluntary contributions, noting that Canada is \$11 million in the red. The nation is one of nine contributing men and material in the peace force, which has been supervising a truce between Turkish forces that seized the northern third of the island from Greek Cypriots in 1971. A vote on the dues issue is expected sometime next week. The Security Council Friday routinely extended a six-month mandate for the peacekeeping force, and Canada used the opportunity to plead its cause. "Canada is owed \$11 million for Cyprus, we think it's time we had a fair system, said the Canadian representative Philippe Kirsch after leaving council chambers. But he said Canada was making no threat to

CIA says war would be bloody and long

WASHINGTON (R) — The director of the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) said a war with Iraq would be long and bloody, the Washington Post reported Saturday. "I don't believe the military assessments contemplate a quick buckle," CIA chief William Webster told the Post in an interview. He said Iraqi forces were positioned for a tough, defensive land operation. He said much would depend on the effectiveness of a U.S. air assault, "but we know they're pretty well dug in and shielded." Webster said Iraq's strategy "is to defend Kuwait... with maximum intensity and to try to draw us into the desert where he can inflict an unacceptable number of casualties." Iraq would not withdraw from Kuwait until it was convinced it was in peril of imminent attack, he said, possibly by staging a partial pullout. The danger is that Iraq would believes it could succeed "until the first shell is lobbed over it," Webster said. The CIA director said Iraqi military forces had a stockpile of 1,000 tonnes of deadly chemical agents, loaded in almost every type of weapon.

Two ships damaged in Bosphorus collision

ANKARA (R) — Two cargo ships collided in the Bosphorus strait, causing damage but no casualties, the Anatolian news agency said on Saturday. It quoted Istanbul naval police as saying the Ince-1, a 5,000-gross-tonne Turkish-flagged dry cargo ship, was in collision with Souad, a 1,000-gross-tonne dry cargo ship under the Lebanese flag, Friday night. Both vessels suffered minor damas e and anchored off the Abirkani shore. Bosphorus after the accident, the agency said.

Germany urged to take Jews

BERLIN (AP) - A Jewish community leader in Berlin urged the government Friday to allow Soviet Jews to come to Germany without restrictions. Moishe Waks said in an interview with the Berlin radio station Rias that on moral grounds the Bonn government must assure the sojourn of Soviet Jews in Germany. Earlier this fall, the government said it would no longer accept new visa applications for Soviet Jews who wanted to emigrate to Germany. Waks claimed that the worsening economic conditions in the Soviet Union was causing a rise in nationalist sentiments that are often directed against Jews. He spoke out against contingency plans that would create quotas for the number of Soviet Jews who could come to Germany. Waks said that an eventual quota ruling would not make sense since in the future all Soviet Jews would be able to leave the country when new passport rules take effect that eliminate travel restrictions for Soviet

Most Britons back action against Iraq

LONDON (R) — Nearly three out of four people in Britain support military action against Iraq if sanctions fail, according to an opinion survey released Saturday. A Harris poll for the British Broadcasting Corporation showed 57 per cent of those questioned expected sanctions would not work. The poll showed 71 per cent of the 1,091 people interviewed nationwide on Dec. 12 and 13 favoured military action if United Nations sanctions did not force Iraq to leave Kuwait. Britain has contributed ground troops, planes and ships to the U.S.-dominated multinational force in the Gulf.

Iran stages major war exercises

NICOSIA (AP) — As Irra's armed forces carried out the largest manoeuvres ever held by the nation, spiritual leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei Saturday ordered the navy to remain united and prepared to confront any eventuality in the Gulf. Tehran Radio said Khamenei

was addressing high-ranking military officers taking part in the air-sea exercise, code-named "Piroozi 1," or Victory 1. The manoeuvres reportedly began Wednesday, but were not

until Saturday. The radio said the destroyer Sabalan, which was rebuilt after being severely damaged in March 1988 by the U.S. fleet protecting merchant ships in the Gulf, was launched by

BAGHDAD (AP) - A

month before the U.N. Secur-

ity Council's deadline to with-

draw from Kuwait, Iraq has

accelerated a drive to prepare

its population for war with

built, civil defence and first-

aid training sessions held, and

plans are being readied to

evacuate major population

The government-controlled

media has been publicising the

need to be prepared for any

eventuality and urging people

not to panic during air raids.

Posters pinned on walls at

street corners in Baghdad and

other cities ask people to be

prepared to face even chemic-

an air raid. Just be calm and

ask for help from local civil

defence men," reads one post-

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"Don't panic at the time of

and nuclear weapons.

Bomb shelters are being

U.S.-led forces.

taking part in the war-games, the radio said.

It did not provide details of the manoeuvres.

But the Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA), also monitored in Nicosia, said last month that the 10-day exercises will cover 30.000 square kilometres in the Gulf and the Gulf of Oman and involve 50 warships.

Several helicopters and hundreds of speedboats will also take part in the exercises. IRNA mentioned in the Iranian media IRNA said the manoeuvres

would include amphibious opter rescue of frogmen.

er in a main plaza of Baghdad,

which has a population of

There has been a noticeable

change in such preparations

since Nov. 29 when the Secur-

ity Council passed the U.S.-

sponsored resolution authoris-

ing military force against lraq

if it does not leave Kuwait by

President Saddam Hussein

"We want peace ... and are

and other leaders have re-

endeavouring to achieve it

and work to reach a point

where none of us brandishes

his sword against the other.

But if our enemies want to

push affairs to a military duel,

then with God's help we will

win and walk over their corp-

"If war breaks out, it will be

the most ferocious war that

ses and tread on their heads,"

Saddam said Thursday.

around one million.

jected the call.

The rebuilt destroyer will be siles and air-to-surface missiles. anti-submarine and surface-toair "bombs." IRNA reported in November.

> The location of the manoeuvres, near Iran's 'southern islands, presents no conflict with the dozens of ships that are part of the multinational force enforcing U.S. sanctions against the attack.

problem more political import-

ance than it has had so far, de

His itinerary was not dis-

closed, but the trip was expected

to take place in the first week of

January, officials said. He also is

likely to hold official meetings in

Israel and in Jordan during the

De Marco also said that "a

peace conference should become

The president, in line with other U.N. formulations, said

that a Mideast peace conference

should include all interested par-

ties, including Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisa-

Its purpose, he said, would be

"to ensure that the occupied

territories are no longer occu-pied, but are returned to those

from whom they were taken."

international guarantees for se-

cure frontiers for Israel and

He said that a conference

should not preclude bilateral

negotiations between Israel and

Israeli officials have rejected a

peace conference, saying that

the primary vehicle for peace

should be bilateral negotiations

with its neighbours. They have

said Israel would refuse to

accept a settlement imposed

upon it and would not negotiate

He said it also should provide

visit, officials said.

Marco said.

a reality."

tion (PLO).

other states.

its neighbours.

with the PLO.

force. which Iran opposes. Khamenei said that "the enemy forces are armed to the teeth. and cautioned Iranian forces to

The dominant Islamic Repuberations and landings, rescue of lic Guards Corps, which has its own air, military and nava Weapons to be used would forces, have often been involved

ever took place, so we have to

make our people aware of

that," a senior Iraqi official

offensive aimed at retaking

Kuwait after the Security

Council deadline and fear that

targets in Iraq itself could be

They believe that casualties

could be high if the multi-

national forces confronting

Iraq uses its formidable air

power - an estimated by

1,900 aircraft by mid-January

- to knock out airbases.

military factories and econo-

mic targets. Many of these are

close to population centres.

The Iraqis endured eight

years of war with Iran. The

government has never re-

leased casualty figures, but

unofficial estimates range from

said in an interview.

Referring to the U.S.-led

wings, and Iran's regular armed had conclusive proof that Libya include surface-to-surface mis- in infighting among themselves.

But the Independent quoted sources as saying punitive action

sources as familiar with the investigation into the bombing on both sides of the Atlantic but did not name them. On Friday, another London

newspaper, the Independent. quoted unnamed high-level sources close to the investigation into the bombing as saying they was responsible.

The Independent quoted its

Iraqis urged to prepare for war as U.N. deadline nears ordered owners of multi-

storey buildings to comply

with regulations requiring shelters in their basements. The shelters must be marked with 10-centimetre square signs advertising their presence. Fines or jail terms are possible for those who fail

On Friday, the ruling Baath Party organ, Al Thawra, urged fractis to join civil defence courses and learn first aid and fire-fighting as a "national duty to foil the American aggression."

"Our militant country is facing a great challenge represented by the American-Zionist aggression, and in order to achieve victory every one of us should have a contribution to make it whether by holding a gun on the battle-

field or by comatting the

against other facilities," the paper said in a front-page editorial. "We cannot achieve victory without knowing how to be-

effects of the aggression

have during aggression. This is why we should join civil defence courses," it said. Officials also said drills to evacuate major population

centres have been conducted,

while similar drills are plan-

ned in Baghdad Jan. 15, the

deadline date. The exercises are aimed at moving the population to safe havens in other areas believed not be targets for air attacks.

Al Thawra said the civil defence courses were organised in villages around the country, with Iraqis being instructed by party cadres and labour unions on how to fight fires and treat casualties.

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 773111-19

PROGRAMME ONE

15:00 Teleter
15:39 Kora
15:40 Programme review
15:45 Children programm
17:10 Footba
18:90 News summar
18:10 Local programm
19:50 Programme review
20:00 News in Arabi
20:39 Arabic serie
21:39 Programme review
21:45 Local programme
23:06 News summary in Arabi
PROGRAMME TWO
17:30 Le Lyonnai
19:99 News in French
19:15 Classical grusi
19:30 News in Hebrer
19:45 Varieties programm
29.99 News in Arabi
29-39 Open Hous
21:19 Doc.: "Great Journeys
22:00
22:39 The Magistrat

PRAYER TUNES

Dbuhr Agr

CHURCHES

CHONGIES
St. Mary of Nauareth Church Swelfish, Tel. 810740 Assemblies of God Church, Tel.
632785.
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590. Church of the Annusciation Tel. 637440.
De in Suile Church Tel. 661757 Terranente Church Tel: 622366
Church of the Assusciation Tel. 623541.
Auglican Claurch Tel. 625383. Tel. 628543.
Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331.
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 775261.
St. Ephraint Church Tel., 771751, Austran International Church Tel.
685326. Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel:
811295. The Church of Joses Christ of Latter
Day Saints Tel. 815817 and 654932.

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of

It will be fair and some clouds are expected to appear at different alti-tudes in the afternoon. Winds will be

Many Iraqis believe the United States might launch an

Baghdad and other cities came under missile atack during the 1980-88 war and many people believe they should be prepared to meet the threat of a potentially more devastating conflict with the United States and its allies.

100,000 to 200,000 killed.

"The Iraqi army and people must resist this imposition by the United States and its allies, whether in the battlefield down in Kuwait or here in our cities and towns," said Shawkat Ibrahim, a retired government employee.

The 55-year-old Ibrahim, who lives in a Baghdad suburb, said he has joined a civil defence course.

Like other Iraqis, he said he believes war is inevitable if a settlement to the crisis is not found soon.

The government has

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

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USEFUL NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY	
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Dr. Mazen Ahn Baker . **EMERGENCIES**

Civil Defence Department ... Civil Defence Immediate

Civil Defence Emergency 199
Rescue Police 192, 621111, 637777
Fire Brigade 991228
Blood Bank 775121
Highway Police 843400
Traffic Police
Public Security Department
Hotel Complaints 605800
Price Complaints 661176
Water and Sewerage
Complaints 897467
Ammen Municipality
Complaints 787111
Telephone Information
(directory assistance) 121
Overseas Calls
Central Amman Telephone
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Water Authority 636381 en Alia Intl. Airport..... 08-53200

HOSPITALS

AMMAN: Hussen Medseal Centre 813813/3 Khalidi Maternity, J. Anna 646281/ Aklich Maternity, J. Anna 64241/ Jabul Amman Maternity 64236 Maihas, J. Amman 636171/ Palestine, Shmeisani 666171/
Shipereni Hogarial
University Hospital 84584 Al-Muzaher Hospital 667221
The Islamic, Abdali 666127/3
AFADIL ADDES
Italian, Al-Muhajreen 777107/ Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafich 775111/2
Army, Marka 891611/1
Queen Alia Hospital 602240/5
Amal Hospital 67415
Zarqa Govt. Hospital (09)98332:

Zarqa National Ho Iba Sina Hospital Princess Bastus Hospital .. (02)275555 Greek Catholic Hospital (02)272275 Princess Haya Hospital (03)314111

FOR THE TRAVELLER QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

ution is supplied by Royal
21) information departm (RJ) infoc Jordanian (RJ) information depart-spent at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (08)53200-5, where it **APPIVALS** Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights

(1er	minal 1)
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DEPARTURE Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights

Beirgt (ME)

(1 atunkan (1)
12-90 Cairo (RJ)
12:49 London (RJ)
12:45 Istanbul (RJ)
17:15 Acaba (R.i)
2019 Dhahran (R.f.)
28:36
28-25 Larraca (RJ) 21-30 Riyach (RJ)
Aliast
21:45 Abu Dhabi, Dubzi (RI)
22:30 Kusia Lumour, Spermer (P.)
Z2:36 Calcutta, Bangkok (RJ) Z2:36 Kuala Lumpur, Singapore (RJ) Z3:36
Other Flights (Terminal (2)

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MARKET PRICES

Jurists urge clergy delegation to 'double efforts' for peace

representing the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States is due here Sunday en route to Iraq where they will meet with government leaders to discuss the Guif crisis.

"The 13-member delegation is going to Iraq in a show of support for efforts to settle the Gulf crisis by peaceful means and to explain the churches' views with regard to the Palestine and Lebanese questions," said a statement by the Middle East Council of Churches here Satur-

The delegation going to Iraq is one of three delegations con-ducting similar missions, one in Palestine and the others in Syria and Lebanon, said the state-

While in Amman, the delegation will meet with Jordanian government officials and will take part in a special Sunday mass for peace which is going to be organised by the Greek Orthodox church in Abdali,

The head of the delegation, Bishop Edmond Browning, met with President Bush before coming out for his mission here, and informed the president about the churches' views which oppose the use of force to settle the crisis in the Gulf, according to

the statement. On the eve of the delegation's arrival here, the Jordanian Jurists Association in Amman Saturday released a statement, addressed to Bishop Edmond Browning, urging him to double his efforts for the establishment of peace in the Gulf and the Holy Land.

Following is the text of the message addressed to the bishop:

The Jordanian jurists, in consequence of the Zionist occupation of the Holy City Jerusalem, wish to draw your attention to the news received from their colleagues in Jerusalem which has been corroborated by the provocative statement made by Aershon Solomon, on Dec. 11, 1990 leader of the so called

AMMAN (J.T.) - A delegation "Temple Mount Faithful," against the Haram Al Sharif, Islam's most sacred shrine.

> They are planning to make an incursion into the Muslim holy shrine and to establish an encampment on its premises Monday Dec. 17, 1990, to coincide

with the upcoming Jewish feast. Solomon added in his statement that he intended to teach the Palestinians a lesson and that the people of Israel will not submit before stones nor any other actions imposed by the Palestinians to prevent his movement's unlawful incursion.

Jordanian jurists in conveying this message to Your Holiness wish to alert all minds to the dangers inherent in the plans of the fanatical Jewish movement. particularly in the massacre of Muslim worshippers on Oct. 8 by Israeli security forces under the pretext of defending Jewish worshippers.

Your Holiness is intending to visit Baghdad bearing a message of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S. on the Gulf and the Middle East crisis adopted November 15.

We, in Jordan, Iraq and in all the Arab countries, Christians, and Muslims alike, are good believers in God and Jesus Christ; but as you know the strategic ally of the U.S., the Zionists in occupied Palestine, do not believe in Christ. They say and declare that he is the false Christ.

You are going to Baghdad to ask Iraq to withdraw its troops from Kuwait.

Please look at the Arab history of the region and the geographical facts and see if it agrees with the Iragi actions.

Please do something in your holy churches, urge the implementation of all resolutions of the United Nations Security Council related to Palestine and the Palestinians.

Please be informed that people in Iraq and Saddam Hussein are lovers of peace, freedom,

Deputy calls for peace march as war deterrent

AMMAN (J.T.) — A member of the Lower House of Parliament Saturday called for a people's march to the Jraqi-Saudi-12 Kuwaiti common border in a bid to prevent the outbreak of war: another deputy underlined the ment to seek support for His Majesty King Hussein's call on the Arabs to embark on a:. Arab-Arab dialogue for a per-xful settlement of the Gulf crisis.

Issa Reimouni Al Abed, from the constituency of Jerash, north of Amman, suggested at a press conference that large numbers of people representing Arab and Islamic communities and professional and political sectors from the Arab World should stage a peace march from the Jordanian-Iraqi border towards the Iraqi-Saudi-Kuwaiti border by Jan. 13, 1991 to serve as a human shield preventing the eruption of a war in the Gulf

He said heads of Muslim and Christian faiths should spearhead the march carrying copies of the Koran and the Bible, and added that popular delegations should tour capitals of the world advocating peace and calling for peace loving people to join the march of peace in the Gulf.

Reimouni called for an hourlong stoppage throughout the Arab and Islamic worlds on Jan. 2 and a general strike on Jan. 12 an support of the Arab and Islamic world's rejection of a resolution by the U.N. Security Council authorising the use of military force against Iraq if it fails to

withdraw from Kuwait by Jan. Jan. 12 should be declared a world-peace day. Reimount sug-gested at a press conference held in his office in Amman.

Reimouni appealed to various fessional and religious groups from around the world to respond favourably to his call and ensure the success of his peace bid; he appealed to local political parties to help organise the

Taher Al Masri, from Amman constituency, said that Parliament's Foreign Affairs Committee, which he chairs, had been discussing means of promoting King Hussein's advocating Arab-Arab dialogue.

"The committee will submit a report to the full House at its next meeting, outlining the importance of dispatching parliamentary delegations to tour a number of Arab, Islamic and friendly nations to support the King's call," Masri said.

The committee, he said, Saturday discussed reports about an attempt by an extremist Jewish group planning to storm Al Haram Al Sharif Monday in defiance of the Islamic Nation, and reviewed measures that are being taken worldwide to abort such a move.

He said that the committee would pursue efforts, at regional and international levels, to prevent the occurrence of massacres at Christian or Muslim shrines like the one that occurred last

King congratulates Bahrain

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Saturday sent a cable to the Emir of Bahrain, Sheikh Issa Bin Sahnan Al Khalifah, to congratulate him in his name and on behalf of the Jordanian government and people on Bahrain's national day anniversary. King Hussein wished Khalifah continued good health and happiness and the Bahraini people further progress and prosperity.

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

- ☆ Exhibition entitled 'L'orient des cafes" at the French Cultural
- Art exhibition by Mukarram Haghondoqa at the Spanish Cultural Centre.

FILMS

- ☆ Feature film entitled "Rocket to the Moon" at the American Centre - 7:00 p.m.
- ☆ Fritz-Lang film festival: "Die Nibelungen" (the second part) at the Goethe Institute — 8:00 p.m.



OUEEN INAUGURATES EXHIBITION: Her Majesty Queen Noor Al Hussein opened at the Intercontinental Hotel in Amman Saturday an exhibition of small size projects organised by the Noor Al Hussein Foundation (NHF). The six-day exhibition displays jewellery, embroideries, tri-cot, children's wear, artificial flowers, ceramics

and traditional handicrafts. A total of 28 groups are taking part in the exhibition which is designed to encourage housewives to embark on productive work and to promote local handicrafts. The Queen later attended a music concert presented by the children of the National Music Conserva-

KLM to stop Jordan flights

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Dutch airlines KI M announced Saturday that it would stop its flights to and from Amman as of the coming month, becoming the third foreign airline to do so this

British Airways (BA) ended its flights in March and announced that Royal Jordanian (RJ) would be acting on its behalf; Swissair ended operations completely by Nov. 30,

BA said, upon announcing that it stopped flying to Amman, that the move was taken due to poor business. Under the agreement with the Jordanian airline, RI act on behalf of British Airways on the Amman-London route, transporting passengers on behalf of the British carrier and will also maintain and service BA TriStar aircraft at its hangars located at the Queen Alia International Airport.

No similar deal was announced between RJ and Swissair which used to operate hy-weekly flights between Zurich and Amman.

In announcing its end of op-erations KLM said that the measure was temporary and prompted by economic losses incurred

reaion's issues

AMMAN (J.T.) — Minister of Information Ibrahim Izzeddin

said Saturday it became neces-

sary to concentrate on the real

problems of the region. He said

more extensive efforts should be

made to solve these problems in

the light of the changes in

Europe and the Soviet Union

and the change in the world

In an interview with the

American NBC network Izzed-

din said there had been an inter-

national commitment to resolve

the Palestinian problem and

there was an interest in solving

He said moves by Jordan and

other Arab countries to find a

peaceful solution to the Gulf

crisis aim at preventing a devas-tating catastrophe in this part of

the world and to enhance the

region's stability. "To reach that

end, a negotiable settlement to

the crisis, that satisfies all parties

to the conflcit, should be

In answering a question on whether linking the Palestine

question and the Gulf crisis

blocks the way to finding a solu-

tion to the Gulf crisis and delays

discussing the Palestinian issue,

Izzeddin said that the two issues

"complement" each other. "I

think there could be some sort of

combination that could satisfy

everyone. I think there could be a

combination by which we can

concentrate on solving the Mid-

dle East crisis and at the same

time concentrate on the Gulf

crisis. I can't see contradiction. I

can't see any way that one can

put those two issues in contradic-

tion to each other. On the

contrary, the two issues comple-

ment each other and they could

in one way or another place us in

a better position as a nation and

place us in a better condition as a

Jordan Times

Tel: 667171

reached," he said.

all the region's problems.

Izzeddin

urges

efforts

to solve

KLM's statement said:

Due to the Gulf crisis and other adverse economic developments such as loss in value of U.S. dollar, fuel cost increases, additional insurance fees etc. KLM regrets to announce that it expects a serious loss in the current financial year. Therefore the board of KLM is looking for cost reduc-

tions wherever possible. One of the decisions made is to suspend temporarily services to almost 10 destinations in Europe and the Middle East.

Regretfully Amman will therefore lose KLM's weekly flight temporarily due to the adverse economical circumst-

The above sad news was conveyed by KLM's Vice President and Area Manager for the Middie East Bram Steller and General Manager for KLM Jor-dan Najeeb Fakhoury to the relevant authorities.

They made it a point to give the full background of this decision to both Director General of Civil Aviation Authority Mahmoud Jamal Balqaz and to President/Chief Executive Officof Royal Jordanian Husam

The suspension of flights will take effect as from January 5. 1991. KLM can still be reached through their office in King Hus-

sein Street in Amman. Alitalia, the Italian airline, suspended flights to and from Amman on Oct. 24 and, according to an airline office spokesmen, flights will resume by April

Jordan has been severely affected by the Gulf crisis and by its compliance with U.N. imposed sanctions against Iraq, and so far has not received substantial financial assistance.

Tourism is one major sector which was affected by the crisis, prompting the Ministry of Tourism last month to announce plans to help stimulate domestic tourism.

Termination of foreign airlines operations reflected a sharp decline in the number of tourists and travellers to and from Jordan this year, according to tourism officials.

They said that nearly 30 per cent of tourists to Jordan last year came from Europe, especially from Finland: Finns are mostly coming to Aqaba and have done so every winter for the past four years. Milit

Jordan. Yemen to boost trade ties

AMMAN (Petra) — The Council of Ministers Saturday announced its endorsement of the minutes of the Jordanian Yemeni Joint Economic Committee meeting which was held in Sanaa between Nov. 26 and

The minutes, signed then by Minister of Industry and Trade Ziyad Fariz and Yemen's Minister of Supply and Trade Fadel Abdullah, outlined means to promote economic and trade ties between Jordan and Yemen, according to an official statement Saturday.

It said that the two sides had agreed on speeding up measures conducted within a quota set by the Yemeni government to the Yemeni importers.

The two sides also agreed on arrangements for the settlement of payments for imported goods from either country through the central banks of the two countries and in convertible curren-

They also underlined the importance of exchanging trade de-

to issue import and export licences for dealing with Yemeni and Jordanian national products, provided that Yemen's imports of Jordanian goods be

legation visits and organising Jordanian trade fair in Yemen to try to sell \$1.5 million worth of Jordanian products.

According to the minutes, the two sides agreed on setting up joint projects of extracting and processing marble, granite, solar energy, building materials, animal feed, fish, and land and maritime transport.

The Jordanian and Yemeni ministers signed a new trade agreement for 1991.

The Council of Ministers Saturday also endorsed a draft agreement on a European Community (EC) grant to Jordan to help finance the seventh development plan of the Ministry of Education.

EC is granting Jordan more than \$1.8 million to help the ministry carry out the resolu-tions of the 1987 educational conference which decided on measures to overhaul the educa-

tional system in the Kingdom.

The EC grant will be in the form of technical assistance. training and scholarships.

According to the statement, the Cabinet authorised Minister of Planning Ziyad Fariz to sign the agreement with the EC.

No more importation of powder milk for dairies

AMMAN (J.T.) — Agriculture Minister Suleiman Arabiyat Saturday stressed the government's determination to implement its decision of banning the importation of powdered milk that has been used in the dairy industry as of the coming month so as to open the way for the locally produced fresh milk to be used instead.

"Should the farms fail to provide sufficient milk to the processing plants, the Ministry of Agriculture will have to intervene and guarantee the supply of sufficient amounts of milk for the dairy production processes." said Arabiyat in a statement carried by the Jordan News Agency, Petra.

Arabiyat, who was making the statement at a meeting with representatives of the dairy industry

and the Jordan Cooperative Organisation as well as the Cattle Breeders Association, annonced a programme for supplying various dairies with fresh

According to the plan, the Danish Company will receive 24 tonnes, the Jordan Dairy Company, 19 tonnes, Al Ra'i Dairy Firm, six tonnes, the Al Bagara Firm, four tonnes, and Al Faqih, one tonne on a daily basis.

The meeting followed reported disputes among the farmers and the dairy firms on the amounts that each of the local firms should receive for processing the milk.

It also followd an open mes-sage in the local press directed to Prime Minister Madar Badran urging government interference

75 receive Jerusalem medal

AMMAN (J.T.) - Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat Saturday handed out the Jerusalem Medal for Culture and Arts to 75 Jordanians and Palestinians in an

emotionally charged ceremony. About 4,000 people packed the Royal Cultural Centre waving Palestinian flags, chanting songs backing the intifada in Palestine and hailing Arafat, chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

The ceremony was the second since the proclamation of the State of Palestine by the Palestine National Council (PNC) in Algiers in November 1988. The medal is the highest cultural award given by the state.

Among those honoured were Rawhi Al Khatib, the expelled Mayor of Jerusalem, Hanna Nasser, expelled president of Beir Zeit University in the West Bank and a dozen teachers, writers, artists, poets and journal-

Also among them were thefounders of the Jordan Times in 1976, Senator Juma'a Hammad who was chairman of the board of the Jordan Press Foundation that also publishes Al Ra'i Arabic daily and Raja Elissa who was deputy chairman of the board at the time.

"This is a medal for all professors and people working in the Palestinian universities... all those who are carrying out the cultural struggle and confronting the Israeli authorities," Nasser declared.

Universities and schools in the West Bank and Gaza Strip have been closed throughout much of the three-year-old Palestinian uprising against occupation.



Palestinian President Yasser Arafat Saturday awards Juma'a Hammad (above) and Raja .Elisag (below)

Jerusalem committee calls for actions to protest Israel's practices

AMMAN (Petra) — The People's Committe for the Defence of Jerusalem Saturday announced the formation of an executive bureau, chaired by former Mayor of Jerusalem Rawhi Al Khatib, and a series of actions to express protests against Jewish groups' illegal practices in the occupied city.

Labib Qamhawi, the committee's spokesman, said in a statement that the committee was calling for a sit-in at the United Nations Development Programme (UNDR) Sunday as part of the protest. The sit in will start 10 ann. and last for six hours to be coincided with an hour-long sit-in in all churches of the Kingdom following the Sunday mass,

eccording to Uair The committee is also calling on people to stage an hour of sit-in at mosques in Jordan Monday to protest Israel's plans to desecrate holy shrines in the Arab city of Jerusalem and in a show of solidarity with the

Palestinian people and their up-

rising against Israeli occupation. "The sit-ins at the U.N. offices will serve as a gesture urging the United Nations to uphold its Security Council resolutions concerning Palestine and the Geneva Conventions on the protection of civilians in times of war," Qamhawi said.

"The committee has decided to send cables to the Arab League, the U.N. General Assembly and Security Council as well as to the five permanent members at the United Nations, the Organisation of Islamić Conference, the World Islamic League, the non-aligned nations' headquarters, the Organisation of African Unity, the Vatican, the European Community, the Socialists International and other organisations urging them to take actions designed to force the Israeli authorities to respect U.N. resolutions and the Geneva Conventions, and also to impose sanctions on the Jewish state to force it to respect world

community resolutions,"

Qamhawi disclosed a statement issued by the newly formed People's Committee for the Defence of Jerusalem which said that it embodied political parties, trade unions and prominent personalities from Jordan. The statement said that the

committee would be following up all matters related to Israel's illegal measures designed to Judaise the Holy City of Jerusalem and to destroy its holy shrines and change the demographic and historic charter of the

city.

The statement said that the committee would try to expose enemy plots in Jerusalem and enlist world public opinion's support for an action to abort is:

pians. The statement noted that the committee considered itself as part of the Palestinian people's intifada, "trying with all its might to end Israel's violations of the national and legitimate rights of the Palestinian people."

Ministry to collect overdes water fees from subscribers

AMMAN (J.T) — The Ministry of Water and Irrigation has embarked on measures to collect long overdue water charges from subscribers, including private citizens and government and

military institutions. Ministry officials said that some of the bills had been out-

standing for several years, amounting to JD 1.7 million. The ministry has now issued notifications to all those who have failed to settle their bills and said in a statement that the sums to be collected were badly

needed for new water projects to

meet the country's urgent needs. At the same time the ministry announced that it had prepared an economy plan for the dis-tribution of drinking water to agricultural, domestic and industrial sectors as a precautionary measure to be implemented in case very little rain fell this

A report in Al Ra'i Arabic daily said that the industrial sector had showed reservations ab-

season.

out the plan, noting that if implemented, it would have negative effects on industrial produc-

The plan followed warnings by the ministry that strict measures would have to be taken in view of the scarce water resources in the Kingdom, and came in the wake of an announcement by the Jordan Valley Authority (JVA) on Dec. 11 announcing that level of water in reservoirs behind dams are dangerously low.

JVA cautioned farmers to adhere strictly to a water distribution programme and warned that the available water resources for irrigating farms were decreasing every day.

Earlier this year, Minister of Water and Irrigation Daoud Khalaf said in a statement that Jordan was seeking to secure financing for the construction of Al Wahdah Dam, on the Yarmoult river near the Syrian border, to ensure there was enough water for irrigation purposes.

Management Management of eorology said Saturday the rack of rain for nearly a whole month was due to the effect of a high depression, but it predicted that rain would be

coming to Jordan by Monday. The department's Director General Ali Abanda said that the eastern Mediterranean region, where it did not rain in November and December, world be affected by the low depressions which now affect Europe.

Two weeks ago these depressions started moving east and south, towards the Mediterranean region, affecting North African regions, but they are now heading towards the eastern Mediterranean region.

"Should rain start to fall by Monday and continue throughout the remainder of this month, it would help salvage the winter crops, specially cereals which mostly depend on rain fall," said

Minister of planning visits RSS

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Planning Khaled Amin Abdullah Saturday visited the Royal Scientific Society (RSS) where he met with its President Ham Al Mulki and several of its senior officials.

Al Mulki briefed Abdullah on

the history of the society, its goals, duties and scientific and technological achievements. Mulki also briefed the minister on RSS future projects and budget for the year 1991.

Abdullah then toured the society's centres and laboratories

where he was briefed by specialists and officials on the each sector's duties.

The minister affirmed that the ministry would extend every possible support for RSS and its projects to enable it achieve its

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Zaben opens health centres

SALT (Petra) — Minister of Health Mohammad Addoub Al Zaben Saturday met Balqa Governor Falen Al Gharaibeh and several of the governorate's officials and discussed with them the

governorate's health needs. Zaben affirmed that the ministry would exert every possible effort to provide health services

to citizens in accordance with its

In another developmet Zaben opened Al Bugei, health centre in Salt suburbs. The total cost of the centre, which will provide services to about 50,000 people,

is estimated at JD 230,000. Zaben also opened Al Kharabshch health centre that had a total cost of JD 80,000. The centre will be providing services

He also opened Ein Al Basha health centre which will provide services to 10,000 people. The centre's total cost reached ID 180,000.

Zaben was accompanied in his tour by the Baiqa governor, the ministry's secretary general, Director of the Balqa Governorate health department.

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Jordan Press Foundation, University Road, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan.

Telephones: 667171/6, 670141-4 Telex: 21497 ALRAI JO Facsimile: 661242

The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays. Subscription and advertising rates are available from the Jordan Times advertising department.

Two goals in one?

ONLY A FEW days after the eruption of the Gulf crisis when the U.S. troops had started to arrive at the scene in waves, U.S. Air Force commander General Michael J. Dougan made a startling revelation that the real U.S. target was Iraq and its war machine. Immediately afterwards the general was sacked for disclosing a "military secret." Throughout the following weeks, Washington's declared objectives varied between the defence of Saudi Arabia and the liberation of Kuwait on the one hand, and the destruction of Iraq as a nation and regional power on the other. Meanwhile, Israel was instructed to keep a low profile in the Gulf crisis as a precaution against another "secret" being disclosed; that the U.S. deployment is to eliminate any military threat against the Jewish state. Israeli Foreign Minister David Levy was unable to conceal his anguish at the prospect of U.S.-Iraqi talks for fear of the possibility that a deal might be worked out that would by-pass its interests. Washington maintained a resounding silence over this so as not to embarrass its Arab partners in the military coalition. But with the waning of support in the U.S. Congress in the last few weeks for Washington's declared overall aims, and President George Bush's plans becoming increasingly jeopardised by the diminishing support for his belligerent perspectives in the Gulf, the White House decided to play the Israeli card in order to placate the questioning public opinion by instructing U.S. Secretary of Defence Richard Cheney to announce to Congress the ultimate U.S. goal behind the huge military adventure in the Guif. On Friday Cheney spoke up and all was revealed: Iraq is a military threat to Israel and must, therefore, be eliminated. All these events were unfolding while the Arab partners in the U.S.-led coalition against Iraq were still maintaining their silence. Is it conceivable that these Arab countries are also partners in the drive to dismember Iraq and eliminate it as an Arab military power? It is one thing to defend Saudi Arabia and insist on the liberation of Kuwait, and quite another to be accomplices in a scenario that aims to undermine the Arab strategic balance against the enemies of the Arab Nation. Why these countries have opted not to even comment on Cheney's disclosure is a puzzling question hich Arabs everywh answer. The least one would expect from those Arab states is a declaration that they reject outright such a U.S. objective and that they will not only have nothing to do with it but also would fight tooth and nail to frustrate it. Perhaps, hopefully, these Arab countries are passing on their opposition to such an ominous U.S. goal by quiet diplomacy. But since the issue is so serious and so troubling they are called upon to resonance themselves on it in the open for all friends and ensuries to hear. As for the rest of the Arab World, it is also duty bound to make a solemn declaration that it will not tolerate such a U.S.-Israeli plan and that Arabs will do whatever is necessary to defend Iraq and its people from any Israeli-orchestrated plan to render Iraq an

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

AL RA'l Arabic daily Saturday called on the European leaders meeting in Rome to take a very constructive stand with regard to the Gulf issue and the Palestine question to make sure that the present chance for making peace in the Gulf is not missed. The European Community should not restrict its role in world affairs to echoing Washington's stands and succumbing to the U.S. will. because the present world affairs require from European nations to undertake a brave stand, saw the purer. It urged the European Community leaders to disregard Washington's call to them not to open an Iraqi-European dialogue because, said the paper. Washington wants to have total domination over the whole issue. drawing the Europeans behind it in all its decisions, regradless of whether such decisions serve Europe's interests or not. The daily also called on the European leaders to heed a statement by the Italian foreign minister in which he said that the European Community should adopt one standard in dealings with various world issues, and urged Israel to abstain from carrying out illegal practices in the occupied Arab territories. The paper said that Europe should therefore adopt a proper stand by demanding that Israel choose between two options: either to accept the idea of an international conference and implement U.N. Security Council resolutions concerning the Palestine question, or face the pros-

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A columinst in Al Ra'i daily urges Jordanians who are still lagging behind in settling their dues and paying their taxes to the treasury to pay them immediately before the end of the year after which they will be liable to pay fines for any delay. Nazih says that the Ministry of Finance has opened the door for all tax pavers to settle their dues by Dec. 31 as a last chance before fines are imposed. Under the present difficult circumstances facing Jordan and as the government is in need of cash to finance various services for the public, one can not ignore his duty to the nation, and paying the taxes now is a show of a sense of national belonging, said Nazih. The writer notes that the sooner the taxes and other fees for real estate and others are paid the better, because this does not only save people paying fines, but also will prevent congestions at the ministry's various departments around the country during the last days of the year.

pect of isolation from the rest of the world.

Al Dustour Arabic daily echoed Al Ra'i's call on the European nations to do justice to the Palestine question and to deal constructively with matters related to the Gulf crisis. Europe is in a better position than others to realise the facts about the situation in the Middle East region and the sufferings of the Palestinian people; and is called on to act in a manner which would contribute to an end of the Palestinian people's ordeal, said the paper. It is hoped that European states, particularly Italy and France, will prove to the world that they are independent from American influence, and can act in a manner to serve their interests and those of the world at large, the paper said.

Sunday's Economic Pulse

Too late to warn against indebtedness

IN this season, when the central government draft budget is being debated by the Finance Committee of the Lower House of Parliament in hearing-like sessions, some individuals, posing as financial experts, like to warn against the grave dangers of external borrowing, in order to scare the committee and the public of heavy indebtedness. This is excellent, had it not been three to ten years late from when the warning should have been

Those who claim to foresee the future and anticipate danger by looking beyond their noses, should have warned against extensive borrowing before the crisis erupted in 1988, when borrowing was the rule of the day. Such timely warnings would not have meant depriving Jordan of foreign capital, but avoiding reaching the point of crisis and all the risks and negative consequences that go with it, as happened in all Third World countries which indulged in borrowing far beyond the red line, and found themselves, after the crisis, compelled to correct and adjust their economies the

However, after arriving to the point of crisis, and losing the credit worthiness and starting the on-going process of rescheduling, and the submission to the well-known conditions, the worst

would have happened, and the warnings rendered meaningless, and unproductive.

As the loyal readers of this column perhaps recall, we have warned against excessive borrowing since the early eighties. We called for the adjustment of the economy and putting the House in order before we are obliged to ask the International Monetary Fund to help. We offered strong criticism and condemnation to the fact that the five year economic and social development plan was based on borrowed capital. We called this a national sin. However, we now talk differently, because the time to raise red flags and ring the bells of danger is far behind us. The government has now the duty of getting all the soft loans that it can obtain, provided of course that the funds will be put into proper and meaningful use, even if that meant deposits with the Central Bank

After a certain limit of excessive indebtedness, more borrowing has minor negative results. Jordan could not reasonably serve more indebtedness than \$2 billion. Therefore it is almost equal to having \$8 to \$10 billion carried in our books. The negative impact is

From now on the important thing is not to stop borrowing but to manage our finances properly. We know quite well that we

shall not repay our current debt, not now nor in the future, because its volume is beyond our capacity, even at the best of circumstances. Our creditors, governments and banks, know quite well that they could not possibly get paid. They are offering our obligations in the secondary market at 25 cents to the dollar, which means they have already given up three quarters of the amounts. We should understand the new situation, and realise that loans are no more available to us in the international market as was the case before 1988. From now on, loans are sort of a limited financial assistance determined by the donors. It is ridiculous to refuse such aid on the basis that our indebtedness is already too high. In one sentence you don't warn the government against something that is not available.

Those who became wise retroactively should try to comprehend the new circumstances. They should understand that Jordan is actually paying all the price for heavy indebtedness, that the priority now is to accommodate the urgent needs of invest consumption and sustainability of economic activity, and finally that the only fate of Jordan's debts is write-off. Those who agreed to lend to us for 30 years at 2 per cent per annum have already given up three quarters of their debt as a grant. The balance will, most likely, be written off during these 30 odd years.

When it comes to war and peace, what's in a date?

By Carol Giacomo Reuter

WASHINGTON — Even before bilateral talks begin, Iraqi President Saddam Hussein may have scored points in the Gulf crisis by engaging the United States in a protracted debate over when to meet.

U.S. President George Bush offered the talks on Nov. 30 in a final effort to put pressure peacefully on Iraq to withdraw its troops from Kuwait.

But repeatedly in recent days, it is the United States that has been under pressure to explain why Iraq's proposed date of Jan. 12, three days before a United Nations deadline for Iraq to quit Kuwait, was unacceptable for talks in Baghdad. "I think Saddam is playing this

with tremendous skill. He's shrewd," said Herman Eilts, a former U.S. ambassador to Saudi Arabia.

"This idea of having talks take place on the 12th means he's within his rights," he told Reu-

ters. "We're the ones who changed the ground rules."

In what some analysts see as a misstep, Bush initially proposed that the Baghdad talks take place between Dec. 15 and Jan.

His offer for direct contacts, followed by Saddam's release of foreigners held since Iraq's Aug. 2 invasion of Kuwait, fostered optimism the threat of war was

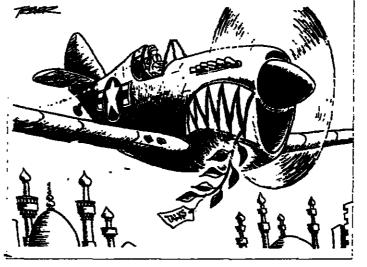
But dickering over the dates for such crucial meetings has dampened the euphoria.

The idea was that at some point during the U.S.-proposed timeframe, Iraqi Foreign Minister Tareq Aziz would come to Washington to meet Bush, followed by a trip to Baghdad by U.S. Secretary of State James Baker to meet Saddam. Washington is not opposed to

Iraq's proposal of Dec. 17 for Aziz's visit but has balked at the Jan. 12 date for Baker's trip. Baker said a date so near the

deadline was not serious but

instead constituted an attempt to



circumvent the U.N. order to

for financial investment.

He argued Washington had shown flexibility by countering with 15 dates for his trip to Baghdad — anytime between Dec. 20 and Jan. 3 — while Baghdad was insisting on Jan.

Bush told the European Community in a letter on Thursday: "Saddam's attempt to postpone the Baghdad trip until January 12 is just the latest example of

weaken the coalition...and to push further back the potential use of force."

Barry Rubin of the Washington Institute for Near East Policy said Iraq's action "indicate it wants to drag out negotiations for many months - beginning this psychological warfare by getting the United States to break its own deadline for military action.'

This is not just a case of tough bargaining on Iraq's part but a disinclination to bargain at all and to emerge ultimately with a total victory in keeping Kuwait," he said.

What if Saddam continues dickering on the dates and Jan. 12 arrives without a meeting? What, then should the United States do?

Jim Phillips of the Conserva-tive Heritage Foundation told Reuters: "Td prefer to have the United States hold firm on the date and not have Baker go." Phillips opposed the idea of direct talks from the outset, calling them a risky venture that could seduce the United States into slippery negotiations with

Iraq.

He is among analysts who believe that by offering talks, the United States led Iraq to believe it was ready to negotiate and to back off the possible use of force, despite the continued buildup of American troops in the Gulf.

By pushing for Jan. 12, Iraq wants to erode the perception that Jan. 15 is a firm date for withdrawal," Phillips said. The State Department Thun-

day was continuing to hold to its tough position but refused to say what would happen if agreement on a date was still unsettled on Jan. 12.

"That's a very good question, but it's a very hypothetical question for me, and that would be something that the president would make a decision about -if you get in that type of situation," spokeswoman Margaret Tutwiler said.

Benjedid

A European defence 'pillar' within an 'American cathedral'

By Raoul Sachs Reuter

PARIS — The European Community is divided ahead of its weekend summit in Rome over the future role of the United States in the defence of Europe.

All 12 members agree on the need to forge a strong European "pillar" of defence for the coming century, but some want it to be more freestanding than others. "The question is whether or

not it must be a European pillar inside an American cathedral," said one Western diplomat, aptly summing up the debate. Whatever side of that argu-

ment they come down on. EC experts agree that the European defence issue will not be solved overnight. "It is an enormous debate." springing from the fun-

damental rethink that must follow the end of the cold war.

For Britain, the Netherlands and some in German Chancelfor Helmut Kohi's ruling the notion of an EC defence organisation, as proposed by italy, is alarming

"We do not see (the EC) as a defence structure," British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd said this week. "European security without the United States simply does not make sense."

But in a joint initiative ahead of the Rome summit. Germany and France told their EC partners that "political union should include a genuine security policy which would lead eventually to a common defence.

The core, they said, already exists in the form of the Western European Union (WEU). a post-World War II alliance of European states which was quickly eclipsed by NATO and has dwelt in its shadow for 40

But three EC states - Denmark. Greece and Ireland -. do not belong to the WEU. And Ireland's neutrality might make it difficult for Dublin to

Italy has proposed integrat-

ing the nine-member WEU into the 12-member community, but Britain favours integ-WEU into a look NATO instead.

"The real problem is that European public opinion will ask why we should keep NATO and why we should have a European defence now that the threat is no longer apparent." one senior French official said.

"That is why the time is right to give European defence a foundation, not setting it up in competition with an Atlantic defence but making the two complementary," he added.

As Europe's only two nuclear powers. Britain and France would play a central role in any futuré European defence structure, since the Soviet Union, whatever its economic problems, remains a military superpower.

But France withdrew from NATO's integrated command generation ago to exerciseindependent control over its

nuclear deterrent. Britain's nuclear arsenal is according to NATO strategy. British Defence Secretary Tom King highlighted the problem on Monday by remarking that his French counterpart "sadly was the only absentee" at a recent NATO

meeting. "I hope in this reappraisal we can see a way of overcom-

ing this," he added.
"Where does France fit in? That is for France to decide," Britain's foreign secretary said in a speech in Berlin on Monday. But he made clear that "there is no question of France being asked to 'return' to the old military structure."

Hurd said NATO was undergoing a fundamental change and Britain hoped that "our French friends will join us in deciding its future shape." But that appeared unlikely

in the near future. A French defence official said: "what matters to the Americans is keeping (NATO's) integrated command, so maintaining a leading role in Europe even as it reduces its troops here."

Gaza

anniversary of the founding of Hamas, a masked man read a speech claiming responsibility for the stabbings.

"Hamas is responsible for the Aviv area," he said. "It is a gift on Hamas's anniversary to the Palestinian people." Hundreds of Israelis attacked

Palestinians and stoned their cars on Friday in the Tel Aviv suburb of Jaffa where the three factory workers were killed. One Palestinian stabbed and wounded by Israelis seeking revenge. Police said 18 Jews were arrested during the riots.

After the killings, Police Minister Ronni Milo said he would back the death penalty for such crimes. Science Minister Yuvai Neeman and Agriculture Minister Raphael Eitan called for the expulsion of Palestinian activists and a ban on Palesti-

nians working in Israel. Eitan said he would raise the issue at a cabinet meeting on Sunday.

Security sources said the government planned to resume expulsions, suspended 16 months ago after international condemnation. Military authorities wanted to banish about 10 Palestinians from the occupied territories and Israel, the sources

In another development, Milo said Friday that he would prohibit Jewish extremists from celebrating the Jewish holiday of hannkkah at Haram Al Sharif next week. "I think that in the present

atmosphere we have to take steps to prevent agitation and emotion ... it's not a proper time for such actions, and next week we will prevent it," Milo said on Israei Radio

The Jewish extremist group, the Temple Mount Faithful, had announced their plans to march Monday to the Haram Al Sharif complex this week.

Plans by the Jewish extremists to lay a cornerstone in the area helped spur the violence on Oct. 8 that left over 20 Palestinians dead in police gunfire.

Sheikh Mohammad Hussein. deputy director of the Al Aqsa Mosque, had warned that Muslims would protect their holy site even if they had to sleep there.

"Muslims are going to protect the mosque," Hussein had said in an interview. "I do not know how many, but there is no doubt they will be in big numbers." Before Milo's decision, tensions among the Arabs were

(Continued from page 1) have as church leaders, that er-

ery possible way short of the bloodshed that will result from 9 war, be used to find peace in a way that does not involve milit a ary action or the war option. she added.

Responding to questions Browning said that "we don't think that the Iraq-Kuwait-site tion can be solved without cor sidering other problems in the Middle 'East.'

"There has been a tendency to isolate issues in the Middle East. We feel they are inter-related, said Martin Bailey, director of communications for the National Council of Churches.

The linkage issue is a main demand of Iraq. However, U.S. President George Bush insists there is no linkage and that Iraq must withdraw from Kuwait urconditionally.

1990 — began with hope for journalists, ended after disappointing oppression

of 1990 was an unhappy one for journalists, with some of the sharpest setbacks coming where hope had been strongest, the International Press Institute says in a yearend report.

The institute's world press freedom review paid particular attention to press difficulties in Romania, Yugoslavia, South Africa, Turkey, Kenya, Uganda, Nigeria, Chile, Colombia

and Iraq. "There has been an increase in attacks on the media, and they most gailing aspect of all is that they are occurring in countries where we had been given good reason to hope for dramatic changes for the better," IPI Director Peter Galliner wrote in the report released

In Romania, Galliner wrote, newspapers that sprung up following the overthrow of Nicolac Ceansescu have been hampered by restrictions.

"It is remarkable and appai-

lingly sad that, after ridding

the country of the horrors and

repressions of the Ceausescu regime, Romania's new leaders have ensured that the nation still has no truly independent newspaper or publisher, because all printing facilities are government-controlled.'

Galliner said journalists also have faced severe problems in Yugoslavia, where Serbian leader Slobodan Milosevic has imposed a "quasi-Stalinist control of the media."

The report said authorities in Yugoslavia closed down the Albanian-lanugage newspaper Rilindia, and dozens of journalists on Belgrade television and the daily newspaper Politika were suspended for reportmg an anti-Communist demonstration in June.

The report said there have been improvements in South Africa, but it also noted that Sam Mabe of the Sowetan daily newspaper was killed by unidentified gunmen in July. Max de Preez, editor of the South African weekly Vrye Weekblad was imprisoned for violating the protection of in-

In Turkey, the report said, Cetin Emec, former editor in chief of the daily Hurriyet of Istanbul, and Turan Dursun, columnist for the banned 2000'e Dogra were murdered.

"Twenty-eight Turkish journalists or editors are still in prison, in many cases serving sentences of more than 100 years — an unacceptable state of affairs in a true democracy," Galliner wrote. Kenya expelled one foreign

journalist, and authorities arrested half a dozen others during the year. Ugandan authorities suspended the accreditation of all foreign journalists and stringers, the report said.

In Nigeria, a number of journlaists were arrested following a failed coup attempt in April, the report said.

In Chile, the report said, the new government of Patricio Aviwin has eased restrictions on expression. However, Juan Pablo Cardenas, editor of the magazie Analisis, was detained

for 13 days in September, and Juan Andres Lago, editor of the Communist Party weekly El Siglo, remained in deten-

In Colombia, several journalists have been murdered by drug traffickers, the report Gallinere said one of the

year's most gruesome incidents was the execution in Iraq of Farzad Bazoft, an Iranian-born journalist working for the Observer newspaper of Lodon. Bazoft was accused of spying. Iraq's invasion of Kuwait silenced about 10 Kuwaiti pub-

lications, the report poted. "Ironically, one consequence of Saddam Hussein's move has been the opening out - of necessity - of the Saudi media, which have been obliged to tell the population the truth, at long last, faced with the evidence all around

them," Galliner wrote.

"But the Arab media, as a whole, remain shackled and subservient to the political line of their respective governments, he wrote.

(Continued from page 1) ;; ,w

(Continued from page 1) gradually replacing pessimism, ohe said. "But for the optimism to reach fruition there must be all-

out support for the Algerian effort towards finding a peaceful settlement to this acute crisis." As soon as Benjedid left, the minister was reported off to Doha to brief its leaders on the outcome in preparation for the

annual summit of the GCC alliance which Qatar is to host on Dec. 22. Simultaneously, Saudi Ara-

bian Defence Minister Prince Sultan landed in Muscat as part of a pre-GCC summit tour he is conducting of the member states of the alliance. Details of Benjedid's peace

mission have not been publicised but while in Iran, both he and his Iranian hosts gave prominence to the necessity of a Palestinian settlement in addition to a solution to the Gulf crisis. They did not however directly link the As Benjedid opened his talks late Friday with Sultan Qaboos,

Saudi Arabia's King Fahd was quoted as saying in Mecca, site of Islam's holiest shrine, that he wished "God speed to all sincere leaders of the Arab Nation and those who call for peace and stability in the interest of the Middle East and the world." Added Fahd: "We want peace

and stability and we hope to reach it, God willing, by honourable means." Earlier in the week, an Arab

diplomat said Benjedid was

trying to arrange a meeting be-

tween Saddam and Fahd. But

the Saudi government threw cold water on that plan, reiterated its standing principle that no talks can be held before Iraq withdraws from Kuwait. U.S.

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A game of words is a serious debate

By Badr Abdul Haq

I COULD not control myself when I read the very interesting article by Abdullah Hasanat in the weekend issue of the Jordan Times (Dec. 12-13). The article, on titles used in government circles and society at large, appeared prominently on the front page of the Times.

Before expressing my admiration for what Hasanat wrote, I would like to recall that the departed Jordanian poet, Tyseer Shoul (who committed suicide 17 years ago). had called in the early days of the establishment of Al Ra'i for the abolition of titles. In the first article he published in his column, which he called Hyde Park, Sboul urged the abolition of antiquated titles starting with pasha, which was used with (Sir John Baggot) Glub's name to afandi, which was used by anyone to address everybody else. Our baker in Zarqa in those days insisted that his customers call him afandi, or else their bread would be considerably delayed.

Sboul advocated that the prime minister be called Mr. stead of dawlat (state), that a minister also addressed by Mr. rather than masti and so on. He thought that titles should not be used to classify people or give privilege to some over

Now after almost 20 years since Sboul made his call, these titles are still widely used. Some high ranking officials get extremely angry if they are not addressed with the proper title that they view as befitting their position and status. Now comes Abdullah Hasa-

nat to reopen the file of titles.

He does so without offering his own opinion on either to use or abandon them. However, the style in which utofat al akh (his kindness our brother) Hasanat wrote his article might well help our cause. It would not be far-fetched if, in the shadow of the democratic glasnost that Jordan is living under, some people might gather under some sort of anti-title association, that I believe should be called the Association of "Sufferers from Use of Titles." I

> formed; you know by whom. I can see the battle that Sboul waged 20 years ago being fought once more.

would imagine that hundreds

of less important civil servants

would join the new associa-

tion. But I can immediately see

a counter association being

The above commentary is re-

DHAHRAN, Sandi Arabia --The United States and Saudi Arabia are preparing to initiate a programme of covert psychosource said. logical warfare as part of any Persian Gulf military action,

sources. The plan includes clandestine propaganda broadcasts to persuade Iraqi soldiers and civilians to abandon the fight, they said.

according to U.S. military

Among operations already in progress, sources said, are efforts to smuggle hundreds of thousands of small transistor radios into Iraq over the Turkish and Saudi borders to provide a ready audience for Arabic-language messages aimed at sowing disruption and confusion across Iraq as war is

With the United States planning to jam Iraq's internal radio and television frequencies, the broadcasts are envisioned as potentially powerfull tools of war because they could provide the only information available to ordinary Irani citizens and soldiers on the front lines.

What we want to do is to control what Iragis know about the war," one knowledgeable

'Other, more overt programmes. modelled on the Voice of America news network, could simply relay accurate information about the progress of the war and provide assurances to Iraqi soldiers that they would not be mistreated if they surrendered or were captured.'

One plan under consideration would deliberately spread disinformation by announcing that Iraqi President Saddam Hussein was dead and urging Irani citizens and soldiers to throw down their weapons, the

Other, more overt programmes, modelled on the Voice of America news network, could simply relay accurate information about the progress of the war and provide assurances to Iraqi soldiers that they would not be mistreated if they sur-

rendered or were captured. The operation would mark a more widespread psychological-warfare campaign than was implemented a year ago in Panama, where invading U.S. forces primarily used loudspeaker-trucks to urge Panamanian military and paramilitary forces to abandon resistance efforts. Military officials concluded that

one of the most serious errors of the Panama operation was the failure to secure Panamanian television and radio transmitters in the early hours of the invasion. Days after U.S. paratroopers seized the country, secret broadcasts from ousted dictator Manuel Noriega were still urging Panamanians to resist the American troops. But if war erupts in the

one of the first things we'll do is take out their television and

"What we want to do is to control what Iraqis know about the war," one knowledgeable source said. One plan under consideration would deliberately spread disinformation by announcing that Iragi President Saddam Hussein was dead and urging Iraqi citizens and soldiers to throw down their weapons, the source

radio capabilities." In this theatre, the United

said.'

Iraq even while remaining outside its borders. Sources said they think the campaign could undermine resistance to the point that U.S. casualties would be reduced if an invasion takes place.

Other plans under consideration would seek to distribute within Iraq clandestine loudspeakers containing a taped anti-Hussein message that could be programmed to boom across town squares and other public areas.

Sources acknowledged that U.S. and Saudi intelligence officials have found such operations to be difficult because of the extensive internal surveillance maintained by Iraqi security forces.

The radio-smuggling operation is well under way, however, and is supported by U.S. and Saudi intelligence officials. The radios are being transported primarily by tribesmen. who move easily across Iraq's borders. — Los Angeles Times News Service.

Dreams become a painful reality

By Sergei Shargorodsky The Associated Press

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM -With more than 1,000 Soviet Jews arriving each day, both the immigrants and Israelis are learning it sometimes is painful when dreams come true.

This nation of 1.7 million will

take in as many as 1 million Soviet immigrants within three years, putting extraordinary pressure on the country's economic and social fabric.

The Soviet immigrants' dream of escape to a haven in Israel has been shattered by government indecision and wrangling over creating jobs and providing housing.

But both the Israelis and the

immigrants see hope in the future. Israelis believe the immigration will end their fear that a higher Arab birth rate will leave Jews outnumbered in their own state. The newcomers envision a better life tomorrow, at least for their children.

They rise before dawn to wait in line outside Absorption Ministry offices. Many waited silently even during the twoweek strike by ministry workers, but some tacked up a sign in Russian: "please end the strike. Stop torturing people."

The strike deprived thousands of immigrants of their only income, the already-meager government stipend.

A family of three receives the equivalent of \$9,000 a year, down from \$10,000 in June. Now there are plans to cut it to about

\$8.000. Even for a two-room apartment, the immigrants must pay up to \$6,000. The stipend also

must cover food and other costs. "The government is not allowing them even a minimum standard of living, while at the same time making it very hard for them to become productive members of Israeli society," said Vladimir Glozman of the Soviet Jewry Zionist Forum, an

unbrella for immigrant groups. Still, the immigrants are betting on the future. Two, three,



Ministry of Absorption workers demonstrate out- per cent of us get wage supplements. Which one of side the prime minister's office in the second week us is irresponsible and cynical? of their strike. The large poster reads: "Moda'i! 70

even four immigrant families may share a two-bedroom apart-

The supply of rental apartments is expected to run out by March, and Absorption Minister Yitzhak Peretz says tent tities soon will be necessary.

With the country's unemployment rate as high as 10 per cent. many immigrants must survive on the stipend.

Some gather spoiled fruits and vegetables thrown out by markets. Some women have become prostitutes. Another, a mother of two in her 20s, said she is looking for "a rich Israeli who will feed us."

Still, there are successes, people who got jobs in their professions, and many examples of aid and kindness by Israeli families.

There also are stories of unscrupulous landlords and employers, of professionals who sweep the streets or wash dishes. Cardiologist Eduard Zaslavsky and his economist wife Polina scrub the floors of Jerusalem's business administration college to support themselves and their 17-year-old twin girls.

"I was mentally prepared for any difficulties before we came to Israel, but I admit that this kind of work was below my expectations," Mrs. Zaslavasky

told an Israeli newspaper.

replacing Palestinians from the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip as Israel's low-income workers. They are "the country's new slaves," as the daily newspaper Maariv put it.

Within months, thousands of immigrants will mark the first anniversary in Israel and will find themselves with no jobs and mable to cover rent with lower second-year subsidies.

"I don't know what to do," said Dioma Kudriavtzev, a 20year-old Russian student with a wife and newborn son. "We will probably find ourselves in the street.

The bulk of the immigrants accept such hardship. In Israel, they say, at least they have hope. There is also despair.

In November, a 53-year-old woman from the Ukraine jumped to her death, leaving a note that said her husband had no work. Last Monday, Leonid Brun, 53, hanged himself in Beersheba. He was jobless and his note said he could not adjust to life in Israel.

Although these are isolated cases, some officials have criticised the government for its absorption failures. Comptroller Miriam Ben-

Porat put it this way: "the heart The immigrants are gradually throbs in pain over lack of action, failures and the shortsightedness of the government in its preparation for absorption of the

mmigration waves." Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir dismissed her words as an unprecedented attack on a proud Israeli institution. He said "such sweeping criticism" exceeded Mrs. Ben-Porat's author-

> She was not alone, however. The daily Yedioth Ahronoth, for instance, recently ran a series of articles on immigrant absorption under a banner headline in Russian: "proval" — "failure."

Failure or not, the impact of the immigration flood and the magnitude of the task ahead are beginning to dawn on Israel and its people. Some are even viocing doubts about whether Israel

Absorbing the Soviet Jewish. tide is "a mission brodering upon the impossible," Finance Minister Yitzhak Modai said in a Tel Aviv speech last week. "In the coming years, we will have to spend \$10 to \$60 billion, a huge sum ... beyond the state

For Modai and the majority of Israelis, immigration still re-

Last month, the cabinet approved a hike in the valueadded tax from 16 per cent to 18 per cent. It also levied a socalled immigration tax, a 5 per cent surcharge on income taxes for the next three years.

mains a "miracle." But there is a

The military fought budget cuts, but lost. The 1991 budget, for the first time, allocates more to immigrant absorption than to defense spending, traditionally a sacred cow in Israel.

Israelis are beginning to understand that immigration will mean fierce competition for jobs, a further increase in high housing prices, apartment shortages and overburdened schools and social services.

Palestinians already complain about lost jobs, and now Israel's 900,000 Arab citizens express fears their jobs and land could be taken away.

A bitter land dispute has arisen between Nazareth Ilit, a city of 28,000 which took in 5,000 immigrants this year, and the Arabs of Nazareth. Housing Minister Ariel Sharon wants to settle 10,000 immigrants among the Arab villages around Nazareth.

As for jobs, a recent imm rant from Tadzhikistan, Michael Alterman, went to work in a Jerusalem metal working factory and noticed his Arab colleagues were disappearing.

"They fired Mahmoud who taught us everything," said Alterman. "It does give a bad feeling but I have to eat."

Still, as the Gulf crisis forces the Israelis to have gas masks handy and the three-year Palestinian revolt becomes ever more violent, the wave of newcomers is a consolation for

Shamir said that the Soviet influx has buried Israelis' fears of being submereged by a growing Arab population.

"In a few years," he said, "we will recognise the land of Israel. Everything will have changed society, the economy, the cul-

Arafat

(Continued from page 1)

Persian Gulf, one official said,

the Gulf crisis cannot succeed if there is no Arab-Arab dialogue that is crowned by an Arab summit," Arafat told reporters at Amman's airport.

He said Arabs should not trust the United States when it says a settlement of the Palestinian problem would be discussed once Iraq pulled out of Kuwait.

"From what the Americans are doing at the Security Council, we cannot trust what they are offering now... that after the Gulf crisis they will solve the Palestinian and Middle East crises," Arafat said.
"The U.S. is not only procras-

tinating but is also pressuring all Security Council members to try and evade the peace parley." In Baghdad earlier Saturday,

Arafat and Iraqi Foreign Minister Tareq Aziz held talks. The Iraqi News Agency (INA) said they discussed developments in the region and "the U.S. anti-Palestinian stand in the United Nations."

The U.N. Security Council has been debating a draft resolution calling for the protection of Palestinians in the Israelioccupied West Bank and Gaza Strip. The draft also refers to a Middle East peace conference.

the dates," said the spokesman. The RCC spokesman said Iraq had proposed that the United States set the date for a meeting between Bush and Aziz in Washington. Baghdad should choose the date of the meeting in the Iraqi capital, he said. "We had informed the Amer-

ican side that their dates were not suitable for us and suggested the 12th of January as the date for meeting in Baghdad. But the U.S. administration insisted on its first proposal... and we suggested that the American side choose a date for the Washington meeting provided that we select the date of the Baghdad meeting by ourselves.

"We had also expressed readiness (for) any time chosen by the American side for the Washington meeting on the basis of reciprocal dealing but the U.S. dministration rejected that and

insisted on its attitude," he said. Jassem said the dates dispute was a matter of principle, saying any president had the right to fix the date for a foreign minister's visit. "It's one of the simplest aspects of sovereignty," he told a news conference in Baghdad later Saturday.

"Serious and deep dialogue will lead us to solve the problem," he said, accusing Bush of making his talks offer only as a public relations exercise. If Bush fixed a new date for

Aziz's visit, he said, "We will fix a certain date for Baker." He could not say whether Saddam might offer a new date or would stick to Jan. 12.

Iraq says Bush is using the dispute over the talks to mislead U.S. public opinion and Congress about his intentions to attack Iraq.

Bush said Jan. 12 would not leave Iraq time to withdraw its forces by the U.N. Security Council deadline three days la-"That deadline is real." said

Bush, adding that Iraqi forces must be "totally out, totally out," by then. Bush originally invited Sad-

between Dec. 15 and Jan. 15. However, now Saddam's proposal of Jan. 12 is seen as a delaying tactic by Iraq.

"I wish now I had been a little more explicit in my first announcement," said Bush. "I did not offer to be a part to Saddam Hussein's manipula-

Bush has also said the purpose of Baker's talks is not to negotiate a settlement, but to issue a face-to-face demand that Iraq withdraw its troops from Kuwait.

The RCC repeated Saturday that any talks must follow Iraq's Aug. 12 initiative linking any resolution of the Gulf crisis to a comprehensive settlement of all Middle East problems.

The initiative is our guide for any dialogue with the U.S. administration or others, because any

serious dialogue must aim at achieving a comprehensive and just solution for the problems of the region, particularly the Palestinian issue," the RCC spokesman said.

Baker's deputy said Saturday that any meeting between the secretary of state and President Saddam would be brief and to the point and would not constitute pegotiations.

"We're going to make it as clear as we can to Saddam Hussein we are serious about enforcing the (U.N.) Security Council resolutions," Deputy Secretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger said on Cable News Network (CNN) television.

"Saddam Hussein will then have to make up his own mind on what he's going to do about

He said the session was likely to be brief — "five minutes to five hours" — but was unlikely to continue for more than a day or two and would not include negotiations. "If if you say 'no negotiations' and you mean it, then there aren't any negotiations," Eagleburger said.

(Continued from page 1) Gulf and with the Middle East in two separate resolutions to avoid any impression that they were linking the two, as Iraq has called for.

They also wanted to avoid offending the United States, which opposes an international conference on the conflict between Israelis and Palestinians.

"The fact that Saddam has talked about the Palestinians doesn't mean anything," Italian Prime Minister Giulio Andreotti, whose country holds the EC presidency, told a news confer-

"What is important is that we have it said with great clearness that one does not solve the problem of the Palestinians by occupying Kuwait and refusing to get out of it."

"But the fact is that, with the same rigour, we must place on the agenda a renewed commitment to solve the problem of everyone's security, including Israel, including the Palestinians," he added.

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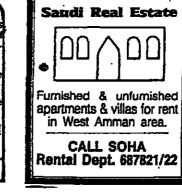
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Grand Slam Cup semifinals become all- American affair

MUNICH. Germany (AP) -David Wheaton used a powerful serve and an aggressive game to upset Ivan Lendi 6-2, 7-6 (7-1) to reach the semifinals of the \$6million Grand Slam Cup.

Wealton, a 21-year-old twoyear pro ranked 27th in the world, dominated from the first point to overpower Lendl, who is ranked third in the world.

- His victory in one hour, 27 minutes made the semifinals of the richest tournament in tennis history an all-American affair. Earlier, Brad Gilbert outlasted Aaron Krickstein in an error-filled match to win 6-7 (5-7), 6-1, 6-3.

Gilbert will play Wheaton in the semifinals, while Pete Sampras will face Michael Chang. "This is the biggest win of my career. I had a simple strategy and that was to hit as deep as I could and to try to keep him under pressure." Wheaton said. Wheaton broke Lendl in the

opening game to set the tone of the match. "I felt I had my range from the

first point," he said. Wheaton scored another break for a I-1 lead, dropped his serve in the next game, but broke again to lead 5-2.

There were no breaks in the second set, but Wheaton was mas," he said. down 15-10 in the fourth game.

"He hit an ace with his second served himself out of trouble."

Lendl himself fought off two break points in the ninth game. the money. Wheaton, seeded eighth. raced to a 3-0 lead in the tiebreak and had to match points. Lendl saved the first with a

brilliant return to the corner, but his next return went long. The court is fast and favours his game." Lendl said. "He took

full advantage of it." 'I knew he can hit powerfully. but I was surprised how consistent he was." Lend! said. "He deserves to be in the semifinal." Lendl had 15 aces, Wheaton

By getting to the semifinals. Wheaton made sure of winning at least \$150,000, nearly doubling his career earnings of \$181,712.

He said he was thinking "a bit" about the \$2-million prize

"I think it will be very com-

petitive again and we will see

different cars and different en-

gines winning, like we saw in

have perhaps more work than

Ferrari because we have a new

car and engine but they have

continued with their 1990 pack-

"That may favour them in

some ways, particularly early in

the season... but I think prob-

ably it will be another cham-

pionship between McLaren and

Ferrari and this time the chal-

lenge is going to be more tech-

"In 1988 it was a men's battle.

In 1990-it was a psychological

battle - and 1989 too. In 1991 it

Senna admitted the 1990 sea-

He began it drained of motiva-

son was one of the most difficult

with the president of the Inter-

national Motor Sports Federa-

tion (FISA), Jean-Marie Bales-

tre. There was also the huge

disappointment of losing his title

inside the Formula One environ-

is even harder to keep it."

to Prost the previous year.

will be a technical challenge."

nical than anything.

of his career.

"We (McLaren) believe we

awaiting the winner. "I don't know yet what I am

rari driver in 1990.

than a pair of socks for Christ- hitting the ball well and I was

first tournament, at Charleston. serve, then an unreturnable and reached the quarterfinals at serve, then another ace. He the U.S. and Australian Opens. and the round of 16 at Wimble-

"This is about three times more money than I ever made in a week and I feel great about it." said Gilbert, who came to the tournament as a replacement for injured Andre Agassi. "And I can still make more.

Gilbert, ranked 10th in the world, was the only player able to hold serve in the third set. with both players repeatedly breaking each other "It was a typical match be-

tween us, there are always a lot of breaks," said Gilbert, who is Krickstein the advantage, but a now 1-1 against Krickstein in his

in his last five service games. The match between the two Americans was marked by sloppy plan by both players.

many line calls.

"I felt frustrated. I felt a lot of my brother John will get more calls went against me. I wasn't trying to charge myself up, to Wheaton this year won his stay in the match," he said. "I wasn't aggressive enough."

Krickstein, ranked 20th, dropped his serve for the first time in the seventh game, but regained the break in the next one, send-Glibert was also happy about ing the first set into a tiebreak.

> He won the tiebreak, hitting a good forehand on his approach to the net. A frustrated Gilbert, who had led 3-1 in the tiebreak. hit a ball into the stands and was given a warning.
>
> Both players held serve in the

first two games of the second set. but traded breaks in the next

Serving for the match, Gilbert wasted his fist match point by hitting a forehand long. A spectacular return down the line gave passing attempt that hit the net areer. and a long forehand gave Gilbert Krickstein dropped his serve his second match point. He converted it with his 11th ace and finished the match after two

hours and 41 minutes. Gilbert had 41 unforced Gilbert complained about errors, while Krickstein commit-

but missed the second, with

NBA ROUNDUP

BOSTON (AP) - Kevin McHale had 24 points and 11 rebounds, and the Boston Celtics withstood Detroit's furious comeback Friday night for a 108-100 victory over the Pistons.

Celtics 108, Pistons 100

Boston led 90-74 in the opening seconds of the fourth period, but the Pistons closed to 93-92 with an 18-3 run.

However, the Celtics regrouped after Isiah Thomas missed a 3-point bomb that would have put the Pistons ahead. Boston regained a sixpoint lead on a 3-pointer by Larry Bird and went on to beat the Pistons for the 18th time in 19 regular-season games at home since 1982.

Bird and Reggie Lewis finished with 16 points each for Boston, whose 18-1 record is second best in the National Basketball Association (NBA). The Pistons, who have lost six of their last seven games, were led by Thomas with 26 points and Joe Dumars with 18.

76ers 95, Heat 92

PHILADELPHIA (AP) -Charles Barkley had 35 points and 15 rebounds and Hersev Hawkins made two crucial free throws with 5 seconds left as Philadelphia extended Miami's losing streak to six

Rich Mahorn's two free throws with 30 seconds to play gave Philadelphia a 93-89 lead, but Glen Rice tipped in a basket with 25 seconds re-

maining. After Miami took possession when Philadelphia could not get the ball in bounds within 5 seconds, Rony Seikaly, who led Miami with 27 points, was fouled with 11 seconds left. He made the first Hawkins grabbing the rebound. Hawkins was fouled with 5

free throw to make it 93-92,

seconds left, and his two free throws completed the scoring.

Spurs 116, Cavaliers 106

RICHFIELD, Ohio (AP) -Willie Anderson's 12-foot jumper tied the score in the final minute of regulation, and he scored five points during a 10-0 run at the start of overtime for San Antonic against Cleveland.

The Spurs, who won their fourth straight game, outrebounded the Cavaliers 69-30, with Terry Cummings grab-bing 18 and David Robinson

It was the Spurs' third consecutive road win but their first at Cleveland since Jan. 2, 1983, ending a seven-game streak in the Coliseum. The Cavaliers are 1-5 since Mark Price was lost for the season with a knee injury.

Robinson scored 23 points, Rod Strickland 22, Cummings 21 and Anderson 19 for San Antonio. Larry Nance led Cleveland with 28 points.

Bulls 128, Clippers 88

CHICAGO (AP) - Scottie Pippen scored 22 points and Michael Jordan 20 as Chicago rolled over Los Angeles for its eighth victory in 10 games.

All 11 Bulls scored as they rolled to the largest victory margin of the season. Previously, Chicago beat Cleveland 120-85 on Dec. 1.

The loss was the seventh in nine road contests for the Clippers, who got 22 points from Jeff Martin and 17 from Danny Manning.

Senna fitter than ever

PARIS (R) - Ayrton Senna had anything but the look of a haunted man as he shrugged off fears over his personal security at the weekend.

He claimed he felt fitter and happier than at any time in bis Formula One career.

The newly-crowned world drivers' champion, who was the victim of a kidnap threat when he returned home to Brazil from the Australian Grand Prix last month, oozed confidence.

Shortly before collecting his award at a glittering gala dinner, he said with a smile: "everything

"It is all under control. It was all a bit different when I got back to Brazil but he had the knowledge in time and we took some precautions. It is no problem to me, it is okay."

The Brazilian looked fit and relaxed at his first major public appearance since the kidnapping dangers were disclosed in Sao Paulo four weeks ago.

He spoke sensitively of the economic and social problems in Brazil, reflected on his second with Fangio and predicted a tough technical battle ahead next year between his team McLaren and Ferrari.

"It is something else to have on your mind," he said as he contemplated the kidnap threats. "Not that you necessarily want things like this.

"I think that my country has losts of social problems at the moment and this is just one of the consequences of them."

Coping with stress and pressures of various sorts, including the dangers inherent in racing a Grand Prix car, has become part of the 30-year-old Brazilian's

But he has never before faced such serious threats to his own life or his family, something he has privately acknowledged in less-guarded moments since securing his second title in three years of bitter rivalry with Frenchman Alain Prost.

It is unlikely, however, to diminish his phenomenal talent or dedication and application

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next season when he will be bidding to make the most of the psychological ascendancy he be-

Bowe crashes Morrison in the opening round lieves he achieved over the Ferthe right hand. He's a runner,

BOXING

KANSAS CITY, Missouri (AP) - Olympic silver medallist Riddick Bowe remained unbeaten as a professional, landing a ferocious right to Tony Morrison's head and knocking out the Canadian heavyweight just 2 minutes, 20 seconds into the opening round.

Bowe threw several jabs at Morrison's chest Friday night before landing the punch that ended the fight, improving Bowe's record to 21-0.

"I was looking for it," Bowe said. "He moved and ran into

and that's his style. But like Joe Louis once said, 'you can run, but you can't hide."

Bowe who fought as a superheavyweight in Seoul, South Korea, said he wasn't disappointed to win quickly.

"It doesn't matter to me whether I go one round or 10 rounds," he said. "I worked pretty hard in the gym preparing for this fight. I go into each fight thinking its going to be a hard

Atlanta opponents fight proposed Olympic stadium

ATLANTA (AP) — Opponents of Atlanta's proposed Olympic Stadium are vowing to stop it in court. They're just not sure how.

"We are serving notice we will nonviolent means at our disposal to move the Olympic Stadium to another site," Ethel Mae Mathews, president of Atlanta Neighbourhoods United for Fairness, said at a news conference Friday.

"The 1990 championship was, in some respects, a continuation The proposed stadium for the of the 1989 season for me," he 1996 summer games, adjacent to Atlanta-Fulton County Stadium. "It was particularly difficult to could encroach on what is left of Summerhill, an old, largely poor go into it and go through to the finish due to all the disagreeneighbourhood affected by the ments there have been over the first stadium 26 years ago. last year and a half or two years

However, she was unable to explain who the group plans to sue, when or on what grounds. Asked about the group's legal plans, she replied, "No, we n't have any plans."

Her newly formed group objects to traffic it says would be inevitable with the new stadium. and the "displacement of senior citizens and cancer patients living in nearby facilities.

Atlanta Olympic Committee (AOC) Executive Director Doug Gatlin said AOC plans call for the stadium to be built in place of some of the existing parking at Atlanta-Fulton Countv Stadium.

German captures normal hill ski jump title in Japan

SAPPORO, Japan (AP) — Germany's Andre Kiesewetter glided 91 metres in the day's longest jump Saturday to win the normal hill event in the FIS Ski Jump World Cup competition. Germany dominated the com-petition, with Dieter Thoma

finishing second and Josef Heumann third. Kiesewetter collected 211.8 points for his first 86.5-metre jump and second jump of 94

points. Thoma jumped 85 metres and 81 metres for 197.1 points, while Heumann leaped 84.5 metres

and 85 metres for a total of 196.2 points. Pavel Ploc of Czechoslovakia finished fourth with 189.6 points

for 83.5-metre and 82.5-metre The Soviet Union's Andrej Vervejkin was fifth with 189.1

points. He jumped 82.5 metres

and \$3 metres.

women's 500 metres race and finished third in the 1,000 metres Saturday in a Speed Skating World Cup event. The Soviet Union's Igor

Meanwhile Bonnie Blair of

the United States won the

Zhelezovski won the men's 1,000 metres in one minute, 15.01 seconds, while German Uwe-Jens Mey won the men's 500 metres in 37.36 seconds.

Germany's Monique Garbrecht placed first in the women's 1,000-metre race in 1:21.91, and Japanese skating star Seiko Hashimoto was second in 1:22.51.

Blair, the 1988 Olympic gold medallist in the 500 metres and bronze winner in the 1,000, was timed at 1:23.08.

Her winning time in the 500metre race was 10.57. Hashimoto placed second in 10.87 and her compatriot Kyoko Shimazaki was third in 10.91.

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR SUNDAY DECEMBER 16, 1996 By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: The New Moon in Sagittarius acents a very peculiar day allowing your best results to come from those about you who know your policies and the special way in which you want to operate.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) The various tasks and chores you have to do whether at thome or places of business can be done now if you hold steady to an established schedule. TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20)

Now you can certainly bring out your most attractive qualities and show others how they also can bring their best points to attention GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) Your interest in family affairs can

now be the best means through which you utilize this day to the greatest advantage so stick close to

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Look into the various and sundry means by which you can gain more accord with your usual associates and then you can get errands done.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) You have many things to do what will lop off expenses and give you more money when you would like to have so be sure to keep your mind on the practical.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) Now you are able to find out

just what is expected of you by those with whom you have usually daily contact so meet with them for what you desire.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) You have it in your power to show the various persons who de-pend on you for help that will heed their requests in confidential and

quiet manner. SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) You certainly now are able to gain the goodwill of most anyone you regard as a friend by acting in a manner that gives themgreater security.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) Let your own actions show those who have any control over your outside interests that you act in such a manner that you are regarded a good citizen. CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) You have so many ner interests that attract you that is necessary that you use your finest powers of discrimination on what is

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to Febru ary 19) You have many obligations and you had better get them be hind you right now or you later find you have missed an opportun-

ity for a clean slate. PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) Partnership interests are of paramount importance now so as and find out what others expect of you and carry through with their



"I can't find my socks, I can't find my belt, I can't find my feet, I can't find my hands...'

JUMBLE THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME... by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words. DUBON ******* POLEE **GLUEED** WHAT THE RUG MERCHANT'S JOKES DID. TRAMOF Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon. Print answer here: Jumbles: DUNCE AMUSE LETHAL SADIST

THE Daily Crossword by Elizabeth Arthur

activity 14 Lodging

of myth 58 Disunite

1 Cupid
2 Half: pref.
3 Monogram
part: abbr.
4 "— Brute"
5 USA word
6 Walnt

31 Place 32 Maltreat

33 Attitudi

least I have the experience to help me cope with it in the best

GOREN BRIDGE

WITH CMAR SHARIF & TANNAH HIRSCH

RIGHT IN DIFFERENT WAYS

Neither vulnerable. North deals. WEST EAST 4 8 7 0 7 5 4 2 1 3 10 4 A Q 72 + K842 **4763** SOUTH • K Q 16 7 5 2 K 9 **→** 10 5

South West North East 4 🕈 P255 INT Pass Opening lead: Three of • Here's an interesting problem. Cover the East-West cards with your thumbs and decide how you would play the hand in six spades.

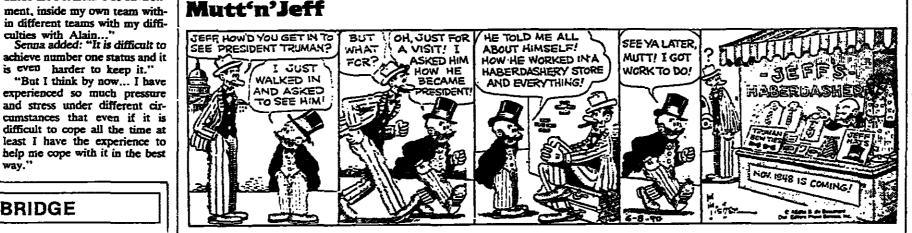
Then see whether you would play the hand the same way if the contract were four spades. South was awfully timid in the bidding. With a good six-card suit and prime values we would have expressed mild slam interest by first recting a probable three no trump placed.

rebid from partner to four spades. Playing at six spades, you have a certain loser in the ace of diamonds. The only way to escape losing a club trick is for the linesse to win, and if the king of clubs is with West guarded only twice, the club suit will furnish two discards via a repeat finesse. And you won't have to worry about finding the ace of dia-

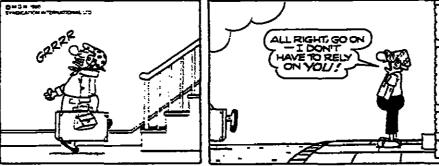
avoid a second loser in that suit. Four spades is another matter. Here, you want to try to keep East off lead, so you don't lose three diamond tricks and a club. Take the spade lead in dummy and lead a heart. If East follows low, finesse your nine. West can win and return trump. You win, cash the king of hearts, enter dummy with the ace of clubs and cash the ace of hearts. discarding a club from hand. Now lead the queen of clubs and, if East follows low, discard a diamond; if East covers, ruff. Either way, you

monds favorably located as well to

must make at least 10 tricks unless the distribution is really foul. What if East plays a heart honor on the first lead of the suit? Win the king, draw trumps and try the club finesse in the hope that one of the jumping to three spades, then cor- two key cards you need is well



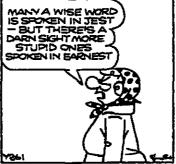
Andy Capp



8

TWENTY-FIVE

DOLLARS TO BUY



Peanuts



WHEN I FIRST MET HER THIS SUMMER AT CAMP. I NOTICED WHAT PRETTY HANDS SHE HAD ... I WANT THOSE PRETTY HANDS TO BE WARM.





money 15 TV part 16 Hello from Don Ho 17 Leave out 18 Commedia dell'— 19 Plano — 20 "Cheers" 23 \$1,000 24 Range of influence 25 Ziti and vermicetti 29 Traller 31 Circuit 37 Circuit 38 Foot: Sp. 38 Foot: Sp. 37 Rictous fun 40 — off (angry) 11 Sherbets 7 Fr. river Wre** 41 Sherbets 42 Fr. river 43 Wrath 44 Assert Yesterday's Pazzie Soived: 44 Assert 45 Tightens up 46 Mesozoic e.g. 47 — Na Na 48 As much fun Enlightenmer in Zen Buddhism Precisely Top-notch RODS POLET AWASH GRANDENT ARROW FISHE CHA FORK SUPEA STAITS HOLA SUTCHER FORL ASRA TERES ANS EGUARAS OLD KUTES SICS STAG GENTUES FORE as a — 57 Giant hunter Marble 59 Vault 60 Brainy group 61 Mountain lake 22 Wag 25 Page of music 26 Son of Jacob 27 Mountain 62 Fr. pronoun 27 Mountain 63 Uses an oven rubble 64 Table leavings 28 Pigeon-65 Gave the 29 More

What those neighborhood busybodies belonged to-THE "MEDDLE" CLASS



places
45 Prickles
46 Jagged
47 Chic
48 Fiasco
49 Turf \$5 Home of the Whitenpools \$6 Raced

«Fouilles dans la vallée»

ER 16, 1990

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Pour un éveil à l'archéologie

présentée dans les écoles jor-

daniennes. De ces encourage-

ment naît l'idée d'un livre

d'initiation à l'archéologie,

qui prend forme en quelques

mois: un petit roman qui s'ad-

resse avec des mots simples

aux moins de quatorze ans; un

personnage central anquel

chaque enfant peut aisément

s'identifier pour découvrir

Faire comprendre l'archéologie dans tons ses raffinements et dans toute sa complexité à des enfants de moins de quatorze ans pourrait sembler un pari impossible. Avec son livre, qui sera bientôt dans toutes les écoles de jordanie dans sa version arabe, l'archéologue française Geneviève Dollfus l'a gagné. Clair, précis, romancé, illustré, «Fouilles dans la vallée» présente aussi l'atout, aux yeux des petits Jordaniens, de se dérouler ici même, entre Amman et la vallée du Jourdain.

«Nous sommes en Jordanie. C'est vendredi, la capitale Amman est tout endormie. Les oiseaux chantent. Réveillé par ce concert, un enfant répondant au nom d'Anakou se lève. C'est un garçon d'une dizaine d'années vif et curieux. Vendredi, jour sans école! Anakou avale quelques falfels, un pen de homos; il ouvre la porte...»

Ainsi commence l'histoire de ce jeune garçon dont le grand-père est maraicher dans la vallée du Jourdain et qui, en l'accompagnant, va découvrir les archéologues qui y travaillent et le sens de leur

Le livre est écrit par Geneviève Dollfus, archéologue française et directeur de recherche au Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS). Elle a travaillé plusieurs années avec l'Institut avec lui, de rencontre en ren-

stituent une équipe archéologique. A la fin du livre, l'enfant revit, grace à ces vestiges et à leur sens retrouvé, la vie de ses ancêtres, migrant il y a 6.000 ans de la vallée du Jourdain aux plateaux, et des changements climatiques. Une abondante illustration aux couleurs claires qui attid'archéologie et d'anthropologie de l'Université du Yarrent le regard des enfants a été dessinée par une amie de Geneviève Dollfus, Louise mouk sur des fouilles dans la vallée du Jourdain. En 1988, Desrochers, spécialiste du deelle organise, avec le Centre ssin archéologique. Culturel Français d'Amman Ecrit en français, le livre est et le Département des Antiquités, une exposition archéologique qu'elle a l'ex-cellente idée de doubler d'une

publié par les éditions parisiennes Syros-Alternatives dans celle des Mille et une seconde exposition, à la pornuits, grâce à la traduction de tée des enfants. La reine Nour et la princesse Wijjdan appré-Mathila Khalaf, relue par cient cette initiative et suggè-Youssef Abou Sheh. De bonne, l'idée devient rent que l'exposition soit

(géographe, lithicien, céramo-

loque, architecte,...) qui con-

géniale et donne à la coopération franco-jordanienne tout son sens lorsqu'il est décidé de distribuer 4.000 exemplaires de ce livre dans l'ensemble des écoles jordaniennes. La direction générale des programmes et des techniques d'enseignement du Ministère jordanien de l'Education, en collaboration avec le Centre affilié à la Royal Scientific

Archéologie

contre, les douze spécialistes pour son efficacité pédagogique et pour la sensibilisation qu'il permet à la richesse archéologique du territoire jordanien. Une richesse qui présente un intérêt culturel évident, mais aussi un intérêt touristique, et par là économique, qui échappe parfois à certains Jordaniens. C'est plateaux à la vallée, au gré des toute la force de ce livre que de diffuser cette perception dans tous les foyers, par l'intermédiaire des enfants. Conçu dans cette optique, le livre de Geneviève Dollfus n'a pas en à subir de grandes modifications pour recevoir le visa du ministère de l'Education iordanien. Comme l'explique Victor Billeh, président du CNRDE, le changement le dans la langue de Molière et plus important porte sur le nom du petit héros, qui d'Anakou dans la version française se voit rebaptisé Hareth dans la version arabe, pour évoguer le nom d'un roi nabatéen que les écoliers jordaniens retrouveront dans leurs études ultérieures et qui assurera ainsi la réminiscence des concepts et des méthodes

évoquées dans le livre. Pour cloturer cette coopération, francojordanienne de bout en bout (des fouilles au livre en passant par l'exposition), la fab-National de la Recherche et rication des 4.000 exemplaires du Développement de fournis aux écoles jordanien-l'Education (CNRDE) qui est nes est pour moitié financée par le ministère des Affaires Society, s'intéressent au livre Etrangères français et pour



Une des pages de la version en arabe du livre de Geneviève Dollfas.

moitié par le ministère de l'Eduction jordanien.

L'anteur du livre, Geneviève Dolfuss, ne ponvait être à Amman lundi dernier, lorsque l'ambassadeur de France Amman, M. Denis Bauchard, a remis au ministre de l'Education, M. Mohammed Hamdane, les 4.000 exemplaires du livre. En son absence, l'Ambassadeur et les

représentants des autorités jordaniennes ont pu dire tout le bien qu'ils pensaient d'elle: tous ont salué son dynamisme et son efficacité sur ce projet.

Désormais, Anakou en France et Hareth en Jordanie. n'ont plus qu'à faire leur travail: éveiller les enfants à l'archéologie, en leur procurant du plaisir.

Jean-Marc Bordes

LA SEMAINE... de Suleiman Sweiss

La tête contre les murs

Ils sont des centaines de millions, peut être un ou deux milliards, hommes, femmes, jeunes, vieux, handicapés, en prison ou «libre», de toutes les couleurs de peau, qui ne jouissent pas encore de tous leurs droits humains. Des massacres, des exécutions sommaires ou extrajudiciaires sont commis par les autorités de temps à autre, dans un pays ou dans un autre, contre des populations ou des individus innocents.

Des centaines de milliers le personnes croupissent dans les geôles pour avoir

osé exprimer leurs idées et leurs croyances à haute voix ou pour avoir agi pacifiquement en leur faveur. Nombre d'entre elles subissent la torture et certaines vont même à la guillotine. Parfois, des manifestants sont arrêtés, des citoyens «disparaissent», d'autres sont refoulés aux frontières.

Mais cela, quoique dur et révoltant, n'est que la forme la plus injuste et la plus brutale des violations des droits de l'homme dans le monde d'aujourd'hui.

D'autres formes - moins visibles - de répression juridique, administrative et pratique sont appliquées tous les jours, partout, qui laissent derrière elles des souffrances et des cicatrices morales, sociales et psychologiques pénibles chez des centaines de milliers de personnes et leurs

Il y a quelques années, un hebdomadaire français a consacré sa converture à la question des droits de l'Homme et a annoncé qu'elle dominerait les préoccupations du monde jusqu'à la fin du siècle.

Il est presque certain aujourd'hui que la lutte pour les droits humains s'intensifie au fur et à mesure que les violations se multiplient. Cela se comprend car il s'avère que cette question ne peut être isolée ou considérée sous son aspect strictement humaniste. Même les organisations et les militants qui évitaient de «se mêler» à la dimension politique de cette affaire, reconnaissent aujourd'hui qu'il s'agit bien des intérêts politiques, économiques, ethiques on culturels des peuples on de certains groupes sociaux, à défendre ou à protéger.

Défendre les droits humains dépend avant tout des efforts et des sacrifices des hommes libres qui prennent en charge cette tâche noble. Mais on se rend compte de plus en plus de l'importance de la prise de conscience par les peuples de leurs droits. C'est encore plus vrai en ce qui concerne le monde arabe. Le mouvement des droits de l'Homme, quoiqu'en évolution, y est toujours l'affaire des élites intellectuelles et politiques. A cet égard, les efforts déployés par l'Institut International des Sciences Criminelles à Siracuse (Italie) sont à signaler. Depuis cinq ans. il applique «un programme arabe pour les droits de l'Homme» et il a publié en arabe cinq volumes sur cette question, qui sont primordiaux dans les mouvements des droits humains dans le monde arabe. Introduire cette discipline dans le programme des Universités, des écoles et d'autres établissements est un facteur fondamental pour élever la conscience des citoyens arabes de leurs droits. Permettre aux mass-medias d'évoquer d'avantage les problèmes des droits humains fait aussi partie de la pratique démocratique dans les pays qui ont entamé l'ouverture

politique chez eux. Cette prise de conscience a besoin d'être accélérée sur les plans politique, social et culturel. La semaine dernière un des thèmes débattus au cours de la «semaine culturelle jordano-palestinienne», a été «la démocratie comme moyen de radicaliser la lutte palestinienne dans le discours culturel arabe». Des interventions d'une profondeur remarquable ont eu lieu, particulièrement celle de l'intellec-

tuel marocain Abdul-Latif La'abi. En ce 42ème anniversaire de la Déclaration universelle des Droits de l'Homme (le 10 décembre), il devient plus évident que l'Humanité, et plus particulièrement le Tiers-Monde ne pourront pas inaugurer le siècle prochain en paix, si l'Etat des droits de l'Homme ne s'améliore pas sensiblement au cours des années à venir.

La vie quotidienne au Proche-Orient ancien

C'est en indexant 20.000 tablettes d'argiles que les archéologues français ont pu reconstituer avec une précision inégalée la vie sociale, économique et religieuse des débuts du deuxième millénaire. Ces tablettes sont les archives royales de Mari, ville prestigieuse de Méso-

Le site de Mari, fouillé depuis 1934, a été particulièrement fécond dans tous les domaines de l'art et de l'industrie mésopotamiens: bijoux, statues, peintures, grande architecture et surtout documents administratifs et épistolaires de Zimri-Lim. demier roi de Mari (1775-1761 av. JC), archives incises, en écriture cunéiforme, sur des surfaces argileuses. Les premiers répertorient les prélèvements faits sur les stocks du palais royal.

Ce sont des bulletins précis et laconiques, particulièrement révélateurs (ils sont datés), des besoins du palais et de sa consommation alimentaire, vestimentaire ou industrielle. On connaît ainsi la «Maison» du roi et sa composition, vaste domaine féminin: filles, épouses de premier rang, servantes des

jeunes princes, concubines de premier et deuxième rang, éducatrices, administratrices, servantes. Leurs noms mêmes sont notés à chaque distribution d'huile ou de laine.

On ne sait malheureusement pas comment ces stocks ont été constitués (impôts, taxes, réquisitions, tributs?). Mais les échanges entre rois de cadeaux somptueux dont témoignent les archives nous renseignent sur les relations internatinales de l'époque: on y voit se nouer et se dénouer les alliances, et on a pour la première fois un aperçu des économies régionales.

Comme les présents sont des spécialités locales, on peut y suivre la circulation de l'étain. du enivre, du lapis-lazzuli, des vins, des textiles et des œuvres d'art. On suit aussi les déplacements de personnes (prisonniers de guerre, chanteurs, danseuses...). S'y révèlent enfin les rapports du souverain avec ses administrateurs et ses vassaux. Beaucoup d'autres informations administratives, bien qu'elles soient partielles, ont l'avantage

d'être uniques. Les documents épistolaires sont aussi très riches, puisqu'ils informent le roi, au jour le jour, de l'exécution de ses ordres et sur les événements. Ces lettres font ainsi revivre les cours de Babylone ou d'Alep, avec leurs lourdes étiquettes.

Celles du général qui commandait, sous les remparts d'Alep, les troupes mariotes alliées aux Babyloniens, par exemple, sont de véritables dépêctes de presse. La correspondance diplomatique internationale a disparu, mais non sans raison: on pense que les Babyloniens, vainqueurs de Mari en 1761 av. J.C., qui ont inventorié les archives des vaincus. en faire bon usage...

Bien que les tablette de Mari ne couvrent qu'un quart de siede, elles ont enrichi de façon spectaculaire l'Histoire du Proche-Orient ancien, d'autant plus qu'elles portent sur une période charnière: les débuts du deuxième millénaire, après la fin de l'ère sumérienne, et avec l'arrivée de valeurs, de techniques et de termes nouveaux venant de l'ouest.

Jacques Bandenan



Les hologrammes en trois dimensions

Dennis Gabor, Britannique d'origine hongroise, a proposé dès 1948 de restituer en relief des images photographiées sur un support plan. Mais il a fallu attendre l'invention du laser pour que cette technique prenne son essor. Et elle a valu à son auteur le prix Nobel de physique en 1971.

Un jeune spécialiste français de l'optique, Thierry Garçon, vient de l'enrichir: les images qu'il produit sont parfaitement tri-dimensionnelles; on peut tourner autour. en voir le dessous; jusqu'à un ou deux centimètres elles sont nettes, et l'angle d'observation n'a pas d'import-

Son apport consiste à employer un support concave léger, jusqu'à un mère carré de superficie, et une tête de

lecture à lumière halogène. Le premier appareil, qu'il a construit dans son propre laboratoire, donnait des im-

ages de 30 cm sur 40 cm, très remarquées au premier salon de l'Innovation (à la Grande Haile de la Villette, à Paris) dès la fin de 1989. Les spécialistes américains et soviétiques ont aussitôt invité le jeune inventeur à venir faire des démonstrations à Léningrad et à Boston.

Ces images artificielles pourraient servir à la décoration intérieure, à la publicité, comme griffe anti-fraude sur des produits de luxe, à présenter des objets d'art uniques dans plusieurs lieux simultanément. L'inventeur imagine qu'elles pourraient accroître le volume apparent d'un studio, par exemple, et le transformer en palais peuplé d'objets rares...

Elles auraient aussi beaucoup d'applications à la formation (optique, météorologie, armement, aéronautique...), là où il faut simuler, notamment pour appendre à piloter certains engins.

Thierry Garçon étudie la possibilité de transformer des données numériques en ondes lumineuses. On pourrait alors produire des objets holographiques à l'aide de la seule CAO (Conception Assistée par Ordinateur). Il s'intéresse aussi à la restitution des couleurs naturelles, ce qu'aucun hologramme ne permet encore.

Thierry Garçon, après quinze ans au lycée Fresnel, a été l'élève du professeur Francis Sanchez à l'Institut d'Optique Théorique et Appliquée du Centre Universitaire d'Orsay.

Il a constitué une société, «Holodesign», pour commercialiser son procédé, qui est protégé par un brevet international. Il a aussi inventé... un néologisme: Holopanogrammé, pour désigner ces nouvelles images.

Jacques Baudeneau

Temps de chien

L'hiver a lancé sa première offensive sur la France et ses voisins européens au cours du week-end dernier, avec des neiges précoces qui ont rendu les routes dangereuses et privé d'electricité plus de 300,000 fovers à l'est et au centre de la France.

En Europe, c'est le centre de l'Angleterre qui a été le plus touché par les intempéries: circulation paralysée sur des dizaines de routes, voies de chemins de fer et aéroports; coupures d'électricité et d'eau affectant plus d'un demi-million de Britanniques, huit d'entre eux ayant trouvé la mort.

La moitié nord de l'Espagne a également subi de fortes tempêtes de neige. 7.000 touristes espagnols sont restés bloqués dans la nuit de samedi à dimanche en Andorre et ont dû être hébergés dans des bâtiments pub-

L'est de la France n'a pas été épargné par la neige. Dimanche matin, 300.000 foyers étaient sans électricité ou sans téléphone. Les premières coupures étaient dues à de la «neige collante» dont le poids a fait s'effondrer les cables, d'autres à des chutes d'arbres sur les lignes aériennes. Fait inhabituel, la Bretagne (ouest), généralement à l'abri de la neige, s'est retrouvée sous une épaisse couche qui a atteint jusqu'à 20 cm.

La neige a ainsi rendu les routes dangereuses, voire impraticables dans plusieurs régions, et la sécurité routière a conseillé aux automobilistes de «rester au chaud». De nombreuses manifestations sportives ont été annulées.

Le tunnel du Mont-Blanc a été fermé lundi soir à la circulation dans les deux sens, pour une durée indéterminée.

En Suisse, l'ensemble du trafic était fortement perturbé: aéroports fermés, retards dans les trains, routes embouteillées voire coupées. Le tronçon ferroviaire en-

tre Dôle (France) et Vallorbe (Suisse), emprunté notamment par la ligne Paris-Lausanne, a dû être notamment coupé à partir de lundi soir jusqu'à mardi midi et les trains détournés.

L'Allemagne a également été gagnée lundi par les tempêtes de neige qui ont provoque un véritable chaos sur les routes, surtout dans le sud. l'ouest et le centre.

La neige fait cependant des heureux: les stations de ski. qui avaient été durement touchées par les pénuries de neige au cours des dernières années.

EN BREF

Islamistes. L'association intégriste des Frères Musulmans va faire partie du gouvernement jordanien pour la première fois dans l'histoire du pays, à l'occasion d'un remaniement ministériel prévu au cours des prochains jours. Quatre à cinq porte-feuilles, dont le ministère de l'Education Nationale (longtemps réclamés par les Frères Musulmans) seront confiés à cette association au sein du gouvernement remanié du Premier ministre Moudar Badrane, dont près de la moitié des membres seront des parlementaires. Ce remaniement suit les élections à la présidence de la Chambre des Députés, remportées le 17 novembre par le porte-parole des Frères Musulmans (22 des 80 députés de la Chambre): Abdel Latif Arabiyat. Aucun porte-femille politique ne devrait être confié aux Frères Musulmans qui occuperaient —outre l'Education— les ministères de la Santé, du Travail, des Affaires Sociales et de l'Agriculture.

Entraves. Sa Majesté le roi Hussein a accusé jeudi à Amman «certaines parties» d'empécher les dirigeants arabes et islamiques de trouver une issue à la crise du Golfe et a affirmé que «l'occasion est toujours propice» pour résondre la crise dans un cadre arabe. D'autres parties (qu'il n'a pas nommées, ne se soucient pas de nos intérêts et ne veuleut pas que les dirigeants arabes et islamiques soutiennent nos causes ni les traitent conformément à leur responsabilité historique». Le Premier ministre jordanien, Moudar Badrane, avait accusé la veille au Parlement, les Etats-Unis de torpiller le dialogue inter-arabe pour empécher tout reglement politique de la crise du Golfe. Il avait fait état d'un «plan étranger destiné à entraver le dialogue arabo-arabe- et affirmé que «certains frères arabes réagissent favorablement à cette orientation».

Dates. L'Irak a refusé jeudi que les Etats-Unis fixent une date pour la rencontre à Bagdad entre le président irakien Saddam Hussein et le secrétaire d'Etat américain James Baker. «C'est l'Irak qui fixe lui-même la date adéquate pour une visite dans sa capitale et une rencontre avec son président» a indiqué un porte parole du ministère irakien des Affaires Etrangères, ajoutant qu'«il est aussi du droit des Etats-Unis de faire la même chose» pour la visite à Washington du chef de la diplomatie irakienne Tarek Aziz en vue d'une rencontre avec le président Américain George Bush. M. Baker avait demandé au président Irakien de le recevoir début janvier au plus tard, rejetant la date du 12 janvier proposée par Bagdad. Cette date avait été jugée «fondamentalement inacceptable» par les Etats-Unis pour qui le 12 janvier est trop proche de la date du 15 janvier à partir de laquelle l'usage de la force a été autorisé par l'ONU pour contraindre Bagdad à se retirer du Koweit.

Reports. Les Etats-Unis ont réussi une nouvelle fois à repousser l'éventuel vote par le Conseil de Sécurité de l'ONU d'un projet de résolution concernant la question palestinienne, en dépit des grincement de dents de certains de leurs partenaires. Epaulés par l'URSS qui, pour la troisième fois consécutive, a fait voter par le Conseil une exceptionnelle motion de renvoi, les Etats-Unis restent ainsi fidèles à deux objectifs: n'établir aucun lien entre la question palestinienne et la crise du Golfe comme le demande Saddam Hussein, et éviter d'avoir à opposer sur ce sujet leur véto qui serait dommageable aux pays arabes modérés de la coalition antiirakienne. Ce projet de résolution, présenté en novembre par la Colombie, Cuba, la Malaisie et le Yemen, traite essentiellement de la protection des Palestiniens dans les territoires occupés par Israèl et se réfère à la tenue d'une conférence de paix internationale au Moyen-Orient. Le document rappelle également que Jérusalem fait partie des territoires occupés. Deux des cinq membres permanents du Conseil de Sécurité, la France et la Chine, ont laissé filtré leur désapprobation en s'abstenant de donner leur aval à ces reports successifs. Il s'agissait à la fois de dire que Paris et Pékin étaient prêts à voter en l'état le texte proposé et de se démarquer des Etats-Unis.

Diplomatie. Le Premier ministre israélien Yitzhak Shamir a quinté Washington jeudi globalement satisfait de trois jours de discussions qui n'ont apparemment rien changé aux différences de points de vue entre Israël et les Etats-Unis mais ont aussi confirmé que les deux pays restent indissolublement alliés. La satisfaction du Premier ministre vient à la fois de la réaffirmation du soutien de Washington à l'Etat hébreu et de sa rencontre avec le ministre des Affaires Etrangères soviétique Edouard Chevernadze. Cette rencontre, la première à un niveau aussi élevé depuis la rupture de 1967 l'URSS et Israël, a été perçue comme une poursuite par l'Union Soviétique de sa politique de lent rapprochement avec Israel accompagnée d'un refus pour l'instant de rétablir des relations diplomatiques.

Ementes. La grève générale de vendredi dernier au Maroc a tourné à l'émeute dans plusieurs villes du pays, notamment à Fez et à Tanger. Il semblerait que l'armée, encerclée par les manifestants, ait fait usage de ses armes à feu faisant deux mort selon les autorités marocaines (une vingtaine selon les syndicats) et 127 blessés. La police a procédé par ailleurs à une centaine d'arrestations.

Albanie. L'Albanie a finalement accepté mardi soir de passer au multipartisme et de remettre en cause le monopole du parti communiste au pouvoir depuis 45 ans. Une mesure prise alors que la poursuite des manifestations étudiantes à Tirana depuis trois jours. risquait de dégénérer en une nouvelle explosion de mécontentement. général. La création annoncée aussitôt à Tirana d'un premier partipolitique indépendant, le Parti des étudiants et des jeunes intellectuels, constitue le premier signe concret d'une opposition organisée. en Albanie, phénomène inconnu jusqu'à présent dans ce pays, si l'on exclut quelques grèves et manifestations rapportées de sources

Walesa. Le leader de Solidarité, Lech Walesa, a obtenu 74% des voix contre 26% à l'homme d'affaires Stanislaw Tyminski, au second tour de l'élection présidentielle polonaise dimanche dernier, devenant ainsi le nouveau chef d'Etat du pays. Très symboliquement, le premier geste du président Walesa a été de rendre visite aux ouvriers des chantiers navals de Gdansk, là où, dix ans plus tôt, petit electricien moustachu, il avait mis le feu aux poudres en Pologne et, par contagion, dans tout le bloc socialiste.

Séisme. Le violent tremblement de terre qui a secoué l'est de la Sicile dans la nuit de mercredi à jeudi a fait au moins treize morts et deux cent blessés dont cinq sont dans un état grave. Le séisme d'une intensité de 7 sur l'échelle de Mercalli (qui en compte 12) a été ressenti sur tout le versant oriental de la Sicile, sur les îles éoliennes, en Calabre, et même à Maltes où aucune victime n'a toutefois été déplorée. Le tremblement de terre a provoqué un énorme mouvement de panique. Selon les télévisions locales, près de deux millions de personnes sont descendues dans les rues par crainte de nouvelles secousses. Dans une bourgade, des bandits ont profité de la confusion pour percer le mur d'une banque et emporter tout l'argent que contenzient ses caisses.

Boulonque. Le juge d'instruction parisien Gilles Boulouque s'est donné la mort dans la nuit de mercredi à jeudi en se tirant une balle dans la bouche. A 40 ans, il avait déjà derrière lui une longue carrière de magistrat instructeur spécialisé dans les affaires de terrorisme. En instruisant l'affaire des sanglants attentats de 1986 à Paris, il avait été au centre d'une polémique politico-judiciaire d'envergure après sa décision de laisser partir libre vers l'Iran, en novembre 1987, Vahid Gordji considéré comme le numéro deux de l'Ambassade iranienne en France. Dans un premier temps, le magistrat avait voulu, en vain, faire interpeiler Gordji, considérant qu'il pouvait être impliqué dans ces attentats, puis, en marge de la «guerre des ambassades» et du bras de ser entre Paris et Téhéran, il avait estimé qu'aucune charge ne pouvait être retenue contre lui.

Draconien. Le parlement français a adopté jeudi soir définitivement le plus ambitieux projet de loi jamais déposé en France contre le tabagisme et l'alcoolisme. D'ici 1993, toute publicité directe ou indirecte sur le tabac sera interdite. Pour les alcools, elle sera autorisée dans la presse écrite, mais interdite dans les publications pour la jeunesse et elle sera restreinte sur les radios commerciales aux heures de faible écoute des jeunes. Il sera interdit de fumet dans les lieux à usage collectif comme les écoles ou les moyens de -transport, sauf dans des emplacements expressément réservés aux fumeurs. Enfin, les marques de tabac et d'alcool sont désormais (Agences) interdites de parrainage.

Opinion

Eloge de la sagesse

Comme tous les intelectuels du monde, les intellectuels jordaniens hésitent entre la quête du pouvoir et la fidélité à leurs principes. Le pouvoir représente à leurs yeux non seulement la possibilité de bien vivre mais aussi celle d'échapper à la solitude et de satisfaire le clan et les amis. Ce sont les raisons profondes de leurs choix, souvent dissimulées derrières des arguments de conscience visant à manifester leur diffiérence. Ecrire dans les journaux pour faire connaître son nom et devenir célèbre n'est qu'un des moyens utilisés pour sortir du troupeau et commencer une ascension de l'échelle sociale.

Entre la religion et les traditions, l'art d'être libre nécessite beaucoup de talent. Comment peut on penser librement quand l'opinion différente est rejetée par tout le monde. L'espoir d'être libre dans les sociétés traditionnelles exige le passage par une phase hupocrite, dans l'attente de l'heure du changement.

La révolution russe, par exemple a mis soixante-dix ans pour comprendre que l'homme nait libre et que s'il est possible de lui apprendre des principes ou des idées, il est en revanche impossible de lui imposer ses croyances. Ce n'est pas se moquer que dire que la révolution russe a mis soixante-dix ans pour comprendre que l'homme naît libre. Il faut rendre hommage, au contraire, à cette révolution qui a ouvert la voie de la civilisatin moderne. Soixante-dix ans n'est rien à l'échelle de l'Histoire. D'autres peuples dans le Tiers-Monde attendent depuis des siècles et n'arrivent pas encore à comprendre qu'il est impossible d'imposer à l'être humain des croyances.

La démocratie elle même n'est pas toujours un gage de liberté intellectuelle. La foule est toujours plus nombreuse et l'histoire abonde en exemples de démocraties où l'intellectuel a toujours été écrasé. La démocratie d'Athènes a condamné à mort Socrate, le plus sage de ses citoyens: la démocratie de Rome a ramené les tyrans au pouvoir et c'est par la démocratie qu'Hîtler est arrivé à ses fins. Bien d'autres exemples montrent que l'intellectuel est souvent perdant, sauf dans ses livres.

Donner un rôle aux intellectueis, en Jordanie comme dans toutes les sociétés traditionnelles est difficile.

C'est dans l'histoire qu'il faut chercher les causes de notre décadence. La crise du monde arabe, incapable d'entrer dans la civilisation moderne, est la première responsable de son avortement culturel. Pour accoucher d'une culture réelle, différente et solide, la Nation arabe doit opter pour une politique plus consciente des racines culturelles de l'Humanité.

Les étapes successives de l'histoire arabe n'ont pas déclenché le mouvement conduisant au progrès économique et culturel. L'essent el du capital est toujours resté aux mains de l'Etat et donc aux mains d'une seule personne, le Kalif, qui en a usé la plupart du temps pour son plaisir personnel. Des fortunes énormes n'ont été investies que pour des noces et des poésies. La cuisine du Kalif a englouti parfois la moitié des revenus de l'Etat. L'accumulation des capitaux pour atteindre la richesse nécessaire au développement économique était un péché passible de la peine de mort. La révolution industrielle, seule clé d'accès aux

époques modernes, n'a jamais été accomplie. Les difficultés du transport et l'étendue du monde arabe n'ont pas aidé non plus à établir le contact nécessaire entre les différents espaces. Pendant des siècles, la société arabe est restée en sommeil, dans les bras de l'Émpire ottoman.

presque coupée du monde. Dans cette insécurité et cette instabilité, l'individu se sentait à tout moment menacé d'une agression par les bandes, les tribus ou même l'Etat. Quand il disposait d'une petite fortune, il la cachait dans la terre pour les jours difficiles plutôt que de prendre le risque de l'investir. Hormis l'Etat, personne donc n'affichait sa fortune au grand jour. Aujourd'hui encore on découvre des fortunes

d'or cachées sous la terre et dans les rochers. L'éducation moralisante et l'esprit de domination n'ont pas éveillé le sens de la responsabilité chez l'individu. Il a préféré baisser la tête que se la faire couper. L'esprit de changement aurait imposé des sacrifices, sans résultats.

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La seule force capable de changer les choses était l'Etat donc le chef, qui, en tant que tel, n'avait pas d'intérêt au changement. Ce destin désertique a laissé l'Homme soufrant et seul, s'en remettant à Dieu pour le protéger des dangers.

Il est important que les Etats arabes modernes accélèrent le changement et découvrent les maux arabes pour éviter les crises de l'avenir. Pas de changement possible sans une reconnaissance préalable des défauts.

Il faut chercher l'origine des choses et parler d'elles comme elles sont et telles qu'elles apparaissent. On n'a plus besoin des poètes romantiques qui éxagèrent et nous apprennent à exagérer. On a besoin d'hommes sages qui nous enseignent l'art d'être objectif sans être agressif. La gestion du présent nécessite de grands hommes d'Etat. capables de distinguer le parleur du penseur, l'hypocrite du fidèle, le tricheur de l'intellectuel.

Fayçal Alzuraigat

Père-Lachaise

Le cimetière-jardin des Parisiens

Après la tour Eiffel, Notre-Dame et l'Arc de Triomphe, le cimetière du Père-Lachaise est le quatrième site le plus visité par les touristes en ballade dans la capitale française: il en accueille un million chaque année.

A l'est de la ville, la nécropole s'étend sur un côteau où l'évêque de Paris entretenait vignes et pressoirs au Moyen-Age. Au XVIIème siècle, un iésuite célèbre y vécut: le père François d'Aix de Lachaise, confesseur de Louis XIV.

C'est au début du siècle dernier qu'on eut l'idée d'en faire une nécropole. Sa réalisation fut confiée à Brongniart, l'architecte de la Bourse, qui fit en sorte qu'elle conservat l'aspect d'un jardin. Le cimetière ouvrit ses portes en 1804 et l'on y transféra quelques sépultures célèbres, empruntées aux autres cimetières parisiens.

Aujourd'hui, le Père-Lachaise s'étend sur 44 hectares. Avec 53,000 arbres. c'est le plus grand espace vert de Paris, Erables, frênes, marronniers, platanes, robiniers, voisinent avec des essences rares: plaqueminiers du Levant et chicots du Canada.

Certaines tombes font l'obiet d'un véritable culte. Le mausolée en forme de dolmen d'Alan Karadek, le père du spiritisme, est le plus fleuri du cimetière: poser la main sur son buste permet la réalisation d'un vœu assurent ses fidèles. La «rock generation», elle, préfère se rénnir autour du tombeau de John Morrison, l'animateur du groupe «The Doors».

La tombe de La Fontaine (on a volé le renard en bronze qui l'ornait) attire les amis des animaux. Les amoureux s'attardent devant le mausolée gothique d'Héloïse et d'Alébard, les amants du Moyen-Age. Par cars entiers, les touristes anglais débarquent devant la tombe d'Oscar Wilde que surmonte un gigantesque sphynx de granit. Plus récentes, les sépultures de la chanteuse Edith Piaf et celle de l'actrice Simone Signoret attirent, aussi, bien des visiteurs.

sonnes ont été inhumées au Père-Lachaise. Parmi elles, que d'ombres illustres! Des écrivains et des poètes: Musset, Balzac, Alphonse Daudet, Proust, Apollinaire, Colette. Des musiciens: Chopin, Rossini, Bellini, Bizet. des peintres: Géricault, Ingres, Delacroix, Seurat, Modigliani. Des présidents de la République: Thiers, Felix Faure.

Certains événements tragiques en ont fait un haut lieu de l'Histoire. En mars 1814, les élèves de l'école Polytechnique s'y opposèreut, les armes à la main, à l'assaut des troupes russes après l'abdication de Napoléon. En 1871, les insurgés de la Commune y succombèrent sous les balles: plus d'un millier d'entre eux sont inhumés dans des fosses. Parmi eux, l'écrivain Jules Vallès et le



leuri nur des admirateurs anceym

poète J.-B. Clément, auteur du «Temps des cerises».

On peut opter pour l'itinéraire «révolutionnaire» qui conduit de la dernière demeure de Marie-Joseph Chénier, auteur du «Chant du départ», à celle d'Eléonore Duplay, la «fiancée» de Robespierre. Ou bien pour le circuit «napoléonien», avec les caveaux des maréchaux d'Empire: Murat, Suchet, Lesèbre; celui-ci est enterré avec sa femme, la fameuse Madame Sans-Gêne. Les belles qui passèrent dans la vie de l'Empereur y ont leur place: Marie Waleska, Mlle Duchesnois, Melle George...

Lieu du souvenir, le Père-Lachaise est aussi un catalogue de styles d'art funéraire. Flamboyantes tombes gothiques, pompeux caveaux hausmaniens ou humbles pierres tombales. Marbres rares, bronzes opulents ou fers forgés délicats. Les architectes et sculpteurs du siècle dernier ont signé certains monuments: Garnier, Guimard, Hittorf, Percier,

Viollet-le-Duc, pour les premiers; Dalou, David d'Angers, Préault, Rude pour les seconds, ont contribué à en faire un admirable musée en plein air.

Parfois insolites ou bizarres, les épitaphes intéressantes rempliraient un ouvrage. Retenons celle d'une veuve à la franchise sans fard. qui fait graver sur la tombe de l'époux disparu: «Attendsmoi longtemps!».

Si l'on en croit la rumeur, le cimetière-jardin ne serait pas qu'un lieu de sérénité. Sans parler des pilleurs de caveaux qui font de loin en loin parler d'eux, il servirait à la célébration de cultes inavouables. Nécrophiles amateurs de macabres cérémonies et adeptes de messes noires s'y adonneraient à d'étranges rituels, les nuits de pleine lune, sur certaines tombes servant d'autels. Une légende sans doute, qui contribue à entretenir le mystère de ce lieu magique et fasci-

Philippe Chevalier

PASSEZ-MOI MON FRANCAIS

La rubrique de Flavia Romero

Respiration

Egeria, amie et sœur, ave!

Ta lettre de la semaine dernière mérite bien plus qu'une réponse écrite. Elle impose le silence, la méditation. Des sujets comme l'absolu, l'humilité, la fuite, touchent les cordes les plus sensibles de l'être. Il faut beaucoup de courage pour en parler, du fait qu'en parler signifie se regarder au miroir sans complaisance, sans coquetterie, mais sans non plus de fausses accusations, ni de victimisme. C'est éventrer sa vie, pour en étudier l'anatomie.

J'ai besoin de temps, d'une espèce de retraite en moi-même pour essayer d'arriver à accepter la réalité sans fansses illusions et sans détresse, pour essayer de rechercher dans les racines les plus profondes de mon être le germe de la maturité, qui devrait être acceptation sereine de ce que je suis et de ceux qui m'entourent. Je recommencerai à t'écrire dès que j'aurai l'équilibre

nécessaire pour le faire.

Accepte, je te prie, toute mon amitié.

Vale, Egeria!

A petites gorgées

Au carrefour des cultures du café

Une très belle idée forme la structure de l'exposition photographique (au Centre Culturel Français jusqu'à la fin du mois) consacrée aux thèmes des cafés littéraires de Paris et des cafés de l'Orient.

En entrant (par un rideau en paquets de café) on pénètre dans un univers à deux rues.

Vu de l'intérieur, l'arrangement correspond à la direction des deux écritures: le français qui s'écrit de gauche à droite; l'arabe, à

Ainsi, la rue de ganche mènera vers Paris, et celle de droite à Athènes, en passant par le Caire, Damas, Bagdad et Istambul. C'est par Ma'an que la Jordanie est représentée.

A un moment donné, les deux rues se rejoignent. Mais selon que l'on commence par l'Orient ou par l'Occident, l'impression est totalement différente. Cheminant de Ma'an à Paris, on passera d'une rencontre avec toute une gamme de gens à des locaux présentant de grandes richesses architecturales où l'on ne croisera personne. La route menant le spectateur de Paris à Ma'an, en revanche, le transportera d'un univers esthétique figé qui l'aurait mis sur le carreau à un monde animé, l'invitant à participer.

Ces directions décrivent les approches des photographes. En France, la solitaire Bérangère Lomont s'est enamourée des aspects décoratifs des cafés de Paris, écartant la clientèle du contexte. Son travail —présentation bien photographiée et variée— se réfère aux lieux où les lettrés s'assemblent, mais il n'apporte rien sur l'ambiance créée par ces gens. Les autres (au nombre de dix), qui ont recueilli leurs clichés dans les divers coins du Moyen-Orient, ont préféré - sans négliger le décoratif - nous dévoiler les fonctions sociales des maisons de café.

Ce côté est infiniment plus riche et diversifié. Il nous révèle que nos photographes, par leurs choix de sujets, ont réussi à faire ressortir le café comme élément fondamental de la société, recherché dans tous les milieux. Patrick Lacombe ne s'est pas privé, en rencontrant à Istambul un jeune vendeur ambulant; et Françoise Journe s'est montrée reconnaissante à la vieille vendeuse au visage parcheminé au coin d'une rue du Caire quand elle hii a vendu une tasse.

Deux photos intéressantes. Un qualificatif qui peut s'appliquer au travail de l'ensemble de cette exposition modeste, dont on peut anssi dire qu'elle témoigne d'un œil aventurier. C'est à Bagdad, au café de la mosquée des Cordonniers, que Adil al-Tai a reconnu l'élément religieux se mêlant de façon naturelle au séculier. Au portail d'une moquée, ou un esprit entrepreneur a dressé des tables et des tabourets, il a photographié un homme à l'aspect très digne, tirant sur son narghileh, et contemplant son café comme

s'il contenait ses pensées religieuses les plus profondes. C'est justement dans ce sens que l'architecture des cafés de cette partie de l'exposition nous rapproche des gens. Elle nous invite à les reconnaître dans les lieux qui leurs sont précieux. Nino Ciccarone trouvera un de ces lieux en photographiant à Doha des dégusteurs sous une immense tente brodée de motifs variés; et Nicos Avraamides en trouve un deuxième -beaucoup plus simple— dans un café trottoir de Limassol, qui s'appelle «À la rencontre des amis».

Nos photographes ne sont-ils que grégaires, cherchant à se meler aux gens de la rué? Philippe Bec, qui s'est heurté dans Foasis de Ma'an à une dimension folklorique inattendue, a pris une autre direction. Emerveillé par le scintillant bric-à-brac tombant en cascade du plafond du café Khouri, dissimulant tables et chaises comme un rideau de brume, il s'est cru à l'entrée de la caverne d'Ali Baba, et a pris un moment pour enregistrer le phénomène. Ainsi d'ailleurs que Krzysztof Pruszkowski, qui, fasciné par un miroitement sur la devanture du café qu'il cher -le café Pastroudis- a l'idée de surimposer sur le cliché des installations de ce café littéraire légendaire d'Alexandrie, l'image de la rue Fouad, comme s'il s'agissait d'un montage naturel.

Même si l'exposition des cafés de l'Orient ne se vent pas toujours littéraire, elle nous livre plus sur ce sujet que le travail de la solitaire Bérangère Lomont. Le conteur du café de Qalamun à Damas, autour duquel, retenant leur halène, les gens se sont regroupés, est une évocation de Mohammed Roumi; c'est aussi Roumi qui a capturé au café Toledo de Homs l'ambiance de l'avant-garde: peintres, poètes et penseurs.

Ce sont ces photos -ainsi que celles rappelant les cafés de Pierre Loti (Lacombe) et de Lawrence Durrell (Pruszkowski)qui mettent en évidence; par contraste, les insuffisances dans le travail de Lomont, où l'élément littéraire est tout simplement introuvable. Belle architecture! Piètre consolation! Qu'est-ce qu'un café sans sa clientèle? Voudrait-on s'imaginer ses auteurs préférés, le formalisme des photos ne le permet guère. On ne voit même pas une tasse de café pour s'inspirer. Pas surprenant dans ces conditions désertiques que ces scènes parisiennes ne fassent ni chand ni froid!

Il nous reste heureusement Noël Favrelière, le directeur du Centre Culturel Français et sa conférence (ce dimanche à 18h), illustrée de diapositives. Il pariera du café, de sa culture à sa consommation. Espérons qu'il repeuplera par ses annecdotes les tables vides de Bérangère Lomont. Il y a des chances, puisqu'il propose aussi à l'assistance un petit noir à la bédouine, et, tout en le sirotant, de causer un peu.

Semi Kamel

TELEVISION

DIMANCHE

17h30 - "La menteuse". Pièce de

théâtre. 19h00 19h15 - Carnet de notes. Extraits de musique classique.

LUNDI

181-06 - L'oiseau des mers. Dessin 18h10 - Denver le dernier dinosaure. Dessin animé. 18h30 - Aventure Voyage. Maga zine de l'aventure. 19**500** - Le Journal.

19h15 - Magazine sportif hebdoma

MARDI

18h00 - "L'art pour la vie". 18h10 - L'école des fans. Des en-fants interprètent le répertoire d'un chanteur célèbre, sous la houlette de Jacques Martin.

19h00 - Le Journal 19h15 - "Aujourd'hni en Jordanie". Magazine local préparé et présenté par Saleh Madi.

MERCREDI

18h00 - "L'obésité" épisode de la série documentaire «Destination

Le Journal 19h15 - Sélection de variétés fran-

JEUDI

18h00 - L'oisean des mers. Dessin

18h10 - Snorky. Dessin znimé. - Spiendeur sauvage. taire sur la vie des ami-

19h90 - Le. Journal. 19h15 - Reportage d'actualité.

VENDREDI

17h30 - "Les cinq dernières mi-nutes". Série policière française. 19h00 - Le Journal. 19h15 - Histoire de l'art. Série

SAMEDI

18h00 - Les clés de Fort Boyard. Course an treor, exigeant des candi-liats courage physique et bonne cul-taire générale. 19h15 - Anjourd'hui en France.

Magazine culturel français.

CINEMA

Avenir. Dans le cadre du mois du court métrage, le CCF présente une série de sept petits films d'animation et de recherche: «L'invité», «Questions de forme», «Spirale», entre

On ne sait pas toujours que de nombreux grands cinéastes, tels que Louis Malle ou François Truffaut, ont souvent réalisé avec bonheur des courts métrages au cours de leur carrière. Souvent ignorés du public ces films constituent pour beaucoup d'entre eux de véritables joyaux du septième art. Centre Culturel Français, le lundi 17 décembre à 26h.

Lang. Dans le cadre du festival Fritz Lang, présenté par Sami Kamal, deux films du grand cinéaste expressioniste allemand sont proposés cette semaine: la deuxième partie des «Nibelungen» et, en vidéo, un des Westerns de sa période américaine, Le retour de Frank James». Institut Goethe le dimanche 16 à 20h pour le premier et le sumedi 22 à 20h pour le secund.

Sans blague!

Aristote et les priorités de Bush

[Pour être bien conseillé, Bush, encore vice-président, entreprit de faire construire un ordinateur super-géant (baptisé Aristote) doté d'un système d'intelligences artificielles extrêmement perfectionné. Tout récemment mis en service, celui-ci avait déjà donné à Bush plus d'un conseil sensé.]

Bush, comme tout homme d'Etat bien organisé, avait établi ses propres objectifs, en fonction desquels il prenait ses décisions. Son premier objectif était d'être réélu à la présidence dans deux ans: son deuxième était d'augmenter l'«avance» de son pays comme puissance mondiale suprême en fomentant, s'il le fallait, des coups sourrés contre tout prétendant actuel ou potentiel à ce titre. Il fallait donc réorganiser le monde de façon à consacrer la suprématie américaine absolue et à décourager toute tentative de

«débordement» des prétendants au titre. Pour être réélu, il fallait s'assurer le soutien des grands lobbies, mais aussi obtenir les suffrages du grand public. Très souvent, concilier ces deux exigences était extrêmement difficile et même contradictoire: comment par exemple s'assurer en même temps le soutien du lobby pétrolier (qui voulait à tout prix voir augmenter le prix des carburants) et la popularité d'un président auprès du large public, popularité qui baissait d'un «point» au moins avec chaque augmentation d'un «cent» du prix du bidon d'essence? Aristote, consulté sur ce point précis avait indiqué la méthode infaillible et éprouvée dans plus d'une région du monde, entre autres assez récemment dans un lointain pays du Moyen-Orient. En 1988 en effet, la monnaie nationale de ce pays, le dinar, était entrée dans une période d'effondrement. Alors qu'il s'échangeait avant cette crise à plus de trois dollars, ses cours chutaient de jour en jour: deux dollars et demi, deux dollars, un dollar et demi, etc. La Banque Centrale le laissa faire. Et lorsque le dinar ne fut plus échangé qu'à moins d'un dollar, elle décida d'intervenir énergiquement» et fixa son cours à un dollar et demi! Le public fut alors extremement heureux de ce résultat «spectaculaire» et de la

stabilité monétaire qui s'ensuivit. Le crédit de cette remontée

«remarquable» du cours du dinar fut mis à l'actif du nouveau gouverneur de la Banque Centrale, qui devint ainsi un héros national.

Pour en revenir au pétrole, il fallait donc augmenter ses cours à quatre vingt dollars ou plus le baril. Suite à l'intervention énergique» de l'Administration américaine, sous la direction «personnelle» du président, les cours seraient ramenés à quarante ou cinquante dollars le baril seulement et la cote de popularité du président monterait en flèche.

Mais comment augmenter le prix du baril jusqu'à plus de quatre vingt dollars alors que tout récemment encore il se vendait pour -Très simple M. le président, répondit Aristote: en augmentant

la tension dans le Golfe et, si cela s'avérait insuffisant, en provoquant une petite guerre (pas méchante du tout) mais dont les premiers effets seraient de mettre le seu à quelques puits de pétrole en Arabie Saoudite et au Koweit. Les grosses flammes rouges et les épaisses fumées noires des incendies du précieux carburant (que tout le monde pourra à loisir observer longuement et à maintes reprises sur son petit écran) feront surement «flamber» les prix du baril jusqu'au niveau désiré.

-Et comment arrêter une telle guerre une fois commencée? -Pour éviter tout danger, il faudrait s'entendre préalablement sur ses moindres détails avec Saddam. Pour l'opinion publique américaine et mondiale, la guerre devra être arrêtée pour «sauver le monde d'un désastre écologique certain» résultant de l'incendie des puits de pétrole et aussi «pour sauvegarder le patrimoine irremplaçable que représente le pétrole.

-Mais comment s'entendre avec cette tête de bourrique? -Pas compliqué: lorsqu'il y a un gâteau à partager, il n'est pas du tout difficile de s'entendre. Donnez lui simplement sa part. De toute façon, on trouvera sûrement, tôt ou tard le moyen de la lui faire recracher!

Quant au lobby des fabriquants de matériel militaire, Bush commençait à trouver difficile de les contenter, maintenant que la guerre froide était terminée.

-Pas du tout, affirma Aristote. La guerre froide est finie, il s'agit maintenant de maintenir plusieurs points chauds, à conditions que les pays concernés soient solvables, ou du moins qu'on puisse leur trouver des bailleurs de fonds (comme pour les Moudjahidins afghans par exemple). Pas question donc de détruire la force de l'Irak comme le préconisent Israël et cette vieille soricière hystérique des îles (heureusement aujourd'hui à la retraite): il faut garder l'Irak comme épouvantail pour effrayer les pays riches de la région: on continuera ainsi à leur vendre des armes. De plus, pourquoi ne pas s'assurer le marché de l'Irak? Pourquoi ce pays n'emploierait-il pas des F16 et des F15 an heu des Mirages et des Migs? Pourquoi ne pas le doter de chars, à la place des T72 soviétiques? Et les fusées, pourquoi irait-il les chercher en Chine, en URSS et en France, alors que nous possédons tout une panoplie au moins aussi performante? Une fois l'Irak bien équipé, son riche voisin, l'Iran devra en faire autant et constituera lui aussi, à nouveau, un marché prospère et

-Mais où viendra se placer Israël dans cette course? Ce pays n'est pas solvable et n'a aucune chance de le devenir! Une fois encore on en revient à la nécessité de faire la paix entre Israel et ses voisins. La course aux armements devra se poursuivre entre pays riches seulement. Les pays pauvres, Israel, le Bengladesh ou d'autres, devront se contenter d'accepter notre protection, ce qui augmentera notre influence auprès d'eux. -Mais comment empêcher les pays «solvables» d'acheter des

armes ailleurs qu'aux Etats-Unis? -Il faudrait pratiquer le dumping pour quelques années. De toute facon, produisant en gros et avec un taux de change du dollar aussi avantageux, nos colts seront certainement inférieurs à ceux des concurrents. Dans deux ou trois ans, ils finiront tous car fermer boutique, et nous aurons alors le monopole du marché du matériel militaire.

«Avec tout ça, pensait Bush avec satisfaction, je pourrai

réaliser mes deux objectifs prioritaires: en m'assurant l'apppui des lobbies du pétrole et des fabriquants de matériel militaire, j'aurai le financement et le soutien médiatique nécessaires pour ma le mancement et le souden memanque necessaires pour ma prochaine campagne présidentielle; en jouant à la «petite guerre» je finirai par obtenir l'appui du public et peut-être, pourquoi pas, le prix Nobel de la Paix (que j'aurai probablement à partager avec Saddam). Mieux, lorsque les usines d'armement se mettront à tourner à plein, le chômage diminuera aux Etats-Unis et la situation économique s'assainira, ce qui me vaudra au moins une dizaine de points d'avance sur n'importe quel autre candidat et me conduira en triomphe à la Maison Blanche. Par ailleurs, angmenter les prix du pétrole commencera à créer des problèmes économiques aux pays de l'Europe et au Japon; les faire sortir du marché des ventes d'armes les plongera certainement dans le marasme économique, ce qui les empêchera, et pour longtemps, de songer à contester notre suprématie.»

Avant de prendre congé d'Aristote, Bush, fier de lui-même, demanda: «A ma place, ne croyez-vous pas que tout président des Etats-Unis se serait fixé des objectifs identiques à ceux que je me suis fixés?»

-La plupart, M. le président, mais pas tous. Washington, Lincoln ou même Wilson ne l'auraient certainement pas fait. Pour ces bommes qui ont marqué l'Histoire, les objectifs auraient été d'instaurer un ordre mondial dans lequel règneraient la paix et la justice et non des formes viles d'asservissement et d'exploitation des peuples. Maintenant que vous m'avez posé la question, je vous conseille de cesser de jouer au vulgaire politicar et d'essayer de devenir un grand homme, un président qui a compris l'Histoire, qui œuvre dans son seus et dont elle se souviendra, quitte à ne séjourner encore que deux ans à la Maison Blanche!

Bush abasourdi par cette «douche» inattendue avait envie de demander immédiatement des explications à cet impertinent Aristote, mais il avait malheureusement rendez-vous avec le Aristote, mais il avait maineureusement romobiles...
président du lobby des constructeurs automobiles...
Sabri Farah

NCR rejects ATT's \$6b hostile bid

NEW YORK (R) - NCR Corp Friday rejected American Tele-phone and Telegraph Co's \$6.12 billion hostile takeover offer as "grossly inadequate," setting the stage for a possible battle for control of the fifth-largest U.S. computer company.

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In rejecting a \$90 a share offer launched Dec. 2, NCR said it would continue to move forward with its business plans. "Clearly ATT is attempting to move forward with its business plans. "Clearly ATT is attempting for its own purposes to take advantage of NCR's artificially and temporarily depressed stock price," NCR Chairman Charles Exley said in a statement.

American Telephone and Telegraph (ATT) has tried to build a computer business on its own for years and has lost billions of dollars in the attempt. NCR has said it would consid-

er talks if ATT dug deeper into its pockets and bid \$125 a share or more, which ATT has said is unacceptable.

New York-based ATT said it was "very disappointed" by the rejection and would weigh its options, adding that it remains determined to conclude the merger with NCR."

The offer for NCR is ATT's largest merger bid and the first hostile tender offer in the telephone giant's history. It has expressed a willingness to consider all aspects of the deal, including price, if NCR agrees to negotiate.

NCR's rejection sets the stage for ATT possibly to launch a proxy battle to unseat the NCR board. Control of the board is needed to remove anti-takeover measures which would make a takeover prohibitively expen-

Sofia halts petrol sales nationwide-

SOFIA (R) — Bulgaria Friday banned petrol sales nationwide for seven days, to save dwinding supplies for vital food deliveries, public transport and emergency

National radio, quoting the state company Petrol, said all until Dec. 20.

Supplies were already rationed to 30 litres a month. Shortages have been mostacute in Sofia, the capital, where a sales ban is already in effect.

Bulgarians face winter with basic foods running out. rationed or over-priced on the black market - and without an effective government.

BBC to close Listener, scrap radio expansion to save money

LONDON (R) — The British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) said Thursday it was closing the long-running Listener magazine and dropping plans to extend its radio network as part of an economy drive.

The decision to close the Listener after more than 60 years of publication was made because of falling readership and losses of around £1 million (\$1.95 million) a year.

The BBC's partner in the joint venture publishing the weekly magazine, Britain's Independent television network, has already said it would pull out next year. The BBC also said it was scrapping plans for two new local radio stations in Britain,

around £3 million (\$5.9 million). The publicly funded corporation announced in January that it was aiming to cut its annual budget by £75 million (\$146 milhon) within the next three years, The company's income from television licence fees is £1.17 billion (\$2.28 billion) a year, a

BBC spokesman said. The Listener was founded in 1929 to cover broadcasting and the arts and flourished as a companion to radio program-

Its appeal faded in the television age, with readership slumping from a peak of 153,000 in 1948 to less than 17,000. The magazine, which has a staff of 20, will close at the end of

Mubarak recommends | Inflation | Market confidence 1,000-day programme

CAIRO (R) - President Hosni Mubarak opened Egypt's new parliament on Saturday, urging Iraq to respond to peace efforts and politicians to galvanise the economy in three years.

He called on the newly-elected assembly and the Shura Council, consultative upper house, to work for economic reform. "I propose... research on an integrated project which could be

talled the 1,000-day project to liberate the Egyptian economy, Mubarak said. He did not spell out what he envisaged, but said red tape had to be abolished to encourage investment and rekindle confidence.

Repeating an old theme, he also urged Egyptians to have fewer Egypt, the most populous Arab state, has sent troops to the

multinational force ranged against the Iraqis in Saudi Arabia. Although the Kuwait crisis has forced thousands of Egyptian workers to return home, participation in the force has won Egypt relief on some \$14 billion in debts to Washington and several anti-lraqi Arab states.

Mubarak told parliament there were signs other friendly countries would follow suit in the next few months.

He said Egypt's \$7 billion military debt to the United States would have cost a total of \$24 billion in repayments and interest if Washington had not written it off.

with the loss of 35 jobs, to save Unpopular Canadian tax becomes law

OTTAWA (R) --- A new Cana- and it is expected to be a nightdian tax on practically everything from piano lessons to sending a fax became law Friday and pushed Prime Minister Brian Mulroney and his conservatives close to rock-bottom in opinion

The seven per cent goods and services tax (GST) won final approval late Thursday in the senate, the upper chamber of parliament, despite an opposi-

tion filibuster that lasted weeks. The opposition Liberals, citing polls that up to 80 per cent of adians do not want a new tax. blew kazoos and read passages from the Bible and other works in a fruitless attempt to prevent a vote.

The Conservative government

.mare to implement.

The Canadian chamber of commerce estimates that between 300,000 and 400,000 small businesses have yet to register for the new tax and believe many are simply not ready to use the sophisticated computer systems needed to collect it.

Vilified as a cribs-to-coffins tax, the new levy will be charged on just about all goods except food as well as on piano lessons, lawvers' fees and even sending a

The tax will be in addition to

provincial sales taxes levied in nine of Canada's 10 provinces. Mulroney's Conservatives have slipped close rock bottom in the polls since plans for the is due to institute the tax Jan. 1, tax were announced and are

supported by only 15 per cent of decided voters. Mulroney must call an election in less than three

The Toronto Star ran an editorial cartoon Friday with Mulroney depicted as a menacing, fang-toothed vampire. The caption read: "I want to suck

Government and many business leaders maintain that the tax will boost the economy because it replaces a narrowly applied 13.5 per cent manufacturing sales tax which tended to make Canadian products un-competitive with imports.

"The GST is a fair and more progressive tax than the antiquated, 73-year-old manufacturers's sales tax it replaces," the Globe and Mail of Toronto said. in an editorial.

The tax is expected to raise about 20.8 billion Canadian dollars (\$17.7 billion) in its first year and 10 per cent of that will be sent as rebates to low-income

The government says the tax is basically revenue-neutral because it replaces an existing tax and because of the rebate system. But critics say it could be used to raise billions of dollars and help the government get its runaway spending deficit under control.

Economists say the tax will boost inflation and some analysts worry it will further weaken an economy that slipped

in Britain declines

LONDON (R) — Britain's inflation rate fell to 9.7 per cent in November from an eight-year high of 10.9 per cent the previous month, the government announced Friday. Officials said it had now peaked.

The decline, the biggest monthly drop in four years. offered some solace to Prime Minister John Major after a bleak week of economic statisties which confirmed Britain is now in the erip of recession with unemployment rising fast.

But economists said the fall in the inflation rate - still higher than many of Britain's European partners — was not enough to tempt the government into relaxng its tight monetary squeeze and cutting interest rates.

"Inflation has now peaked, the treasury said in a statement adding: "... provided oil prices remain around recent levels in-Sation will fall sharply through

next year. Opposition parties were unimpressed, however. They decribed the figure as cosmetic and accusing the government of mismanagement.

A welter of economic statistics released along with inflation Friday showed British manufacturing output fell by 2.4 per cent in the three months to October.

"This is stark confirmation that the economy is moving into a full-blown recession," said Keith Skeoch, economist at brokers James Capel.

Despite the drop in inflation, is unlikely Chancellor of the Exchequer Norman Lamont will ease interest rates which have pinched industry and left consumers, particularly mortgage into recession earlier this year. | holders, with less to spend.

in silver wanes

LONDON (R) - Silver was silver." dence in the metal has been silver, since the beginning of the eroded and odds were heavily week. against any quick recovery.

clining investor interest, a world Gulf. glut and concern that deepening Peace, while generally creatdemand for the metal.

Smith, precious metal analyst at and solder industries. UBS Phillips and Drew in London, said.

London Thursday at 401.25 cents, could now touch, or turnble below, an historic low of 383 cents in January 1976.

Last year's average price was 550 cents an ounce on a spot prolonged economic downturn. market basis,, while the ninemonth figure for 1990 was 502

Smith said the latest bout of selling was due to what he described as technical rather than away but over the years it takes fundamental market factors.

"To cite the old recessionary tears would be after-the-event rationalisation. The market has been thin and people have been palving the gold-silver ratio," he

"Silver prices will erode gently...sideways and down to 380-390. I don't believe in a free fall theory," said Ted Arnold, pre-

Smith Inc. Speculators had been expect-

fixed at a 15-year low of 396.4 Prices have come under presscents an ounce in London Fri- ure from so-called ratio trading, day, prompting bullion analysts where U.S. professionals have to confude that market confi- been buying gold and selling

One major factor has been Silver prices have come under silver's weak performance since selling pressure because of de-peace initiatives emerged in the

recession would slash industrial ing selling pressure for gold, was expected to boost silver on the "Technically it looks awful grounds that lower oil prices now that the magic 15-year sup-would generate better demand port has been broken." Andrew for silver from the photographic

The photographich industry. The metal, which was fixed in which uses silver to make black and white film, consumes about 45 per cent of all silver mined. This coincided with a shift in U.S. expectations of a short and mild recession to a longer, more

> With supplies increasing and demand slowing down, silver was likely to behave "like water on sand...it tends to erode away. it doesn't wash the entire beach away some of it," Arnold said.

Silver output is not particularly sensitive to price movements as the metal is mostly a byproduct of gold and base metal smeltering. About 63 per cent of the silver mined worldwide is estimated to be such a byproduct, making production cost hard to estimate.

"In accounting terms silver is cious metals analyst at Merrill almost a free good - so long as Lynch, Pierce, Fenner and the price is above zero, it will be mined," Smith said.

Some production cuts by ing the gold-silver price ratio, primary silver producers would recently around a record high of not bring about a significant 90 to one, to return to below that easing of oversupply, he added. level, Smith said. "When it Heavily indebted Mexico and didn't do that, they dumped Peru are big primary producers.

Gorbachev bans direct trading among republics

MOSCOW (R) - President trying to restore order to a detually banned the Soviet repub-

Soviet state.

In a decree Gorbachev banned all individual deals for 1991 that could damage existing economic ties and he said enterprises should immediately sign contracts for supplying the state. The restriction applied to indi-

countries as well as to barter Gorbachev's decree "to pre-

vidual agreements with foreign

Mikhail Gorbachev Friday vir- teriorating economy by returning power to the central author-

was to supply the centralised critical shortage of basic goods.

challenging Moscow's traditional centralised control on industry. Republics and factories are increasingly signing contracts

ly lines and threatened to bring

vent disruption" was aimed at **AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES**

The decree is another sign that reformist Gorbachev, under intense pressure to halt a political and economic downward slide. has slowly been moving back

"Completion of contracts for 1991 is lagging behind seriously. which is putting all branches of the decree said.

shortages of raw materials were crippling production of household goods in the southwestern republic of Moldova.

Gorbachev said the Soviet government would soon sign agreements to import raw materials and ensure that industrial output next year was main-

the food and chemical sectors and light industry.

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U.S. wholesale inflation stays strong

ber despite new evidence the serve Board said. U.S. economy is in recession, government reports showed Fri- dence we are going into a deeper

The Labour Department reported that the producer price index (PPI), a measure of ciation of Manufacturers. wholesale inflation, rose an unexpectedly strong 0.5 per cent unanimous that the U.S. is in for after climbing 1.1 per cent and six months of declining econothe core wholesale inflationary 1.6 per cent in the prior months due to higher oil prices.

The data muddied prospects that the Federal Reserve central bank, committed to taming inflation, will lower interest rates quickly to arrest a severe economic downturn.

Factory production feil 1.7 per

Wholesale inflation remained January, 1982, the middle of the unexpectedly strong in Novem- last recession, the Federal Re-

"This is unambiguous evi-

-recession than we intitially anticipated," said Gordon Richards, .economist at the National Asso-

mid-1991 rebound from reces-

Cuts in car manufacturing plants accounted for about half the November drop in industrial production figures, but every major factory sector recorded declining output. Usage of fac-

usually brings down prices. But the producer price index so far has failed to respond. Economists are virtually and energy figures from the in-

mic activity, but most expect a rate was up 0.5 per cent in November, compared with an unchanged October rate, the department said.

per cent rise excluding food and and 3.7 per cent rate, respectiveevergy prices.

tory capacity also slumped to But analysts saw cause for 80.9 per cent from 82.4 per cent optimism. "These big increases in October, its lowest rate since are not sustainable," said Alan Levenson, director of financial Shrinking industrial produc- services at the Wefa Group. tion, a sign of weak demand.

Climbing unemployment, inaemic retail sales and plant itdowns all hamper producthis' ability to continue passing on higher costs to buyers. analysts said.

Already these damping pressures are showing in the PPI.

Saturday, December 15, 1990 Central Bank official rates

Pound Sterlin Deutschemark Swiss franc French franc

Sell 1280.1 1287.8

497.2 500.2 395.5 397.9 118.3 119.0 59.1 59.5 215.4 216.7 Japanese yen (for 100) Dutch guilder Swedish crown Italian lira (for 100) Belgian franc (for 10)

lies and enterprises from direct, ries.

Production is slumping agross with foreign partners.

He ruled that their first duty

Most of the 15 republics, eager to benefit from their own resources, are exerting increased power over their own affairs.

with one another instead of agreeing to sell goods to the state at low prices. This had disrupted long-established supp-

many industries to a standstill. At a local level, factories are tained. carrying out barter deals among themselves — for example by trading machinery for food.

towards the right.

TASS news agency Friday said

The imports will be directed at

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pered by cheaper oil, and a 0.2 seasonally adjusted 1.8 per cent

About half of the November gain in prices that producers charged retail and wholesale outlets for finished goods was accounted for by one-time jumps Economists had expected a in car and tobacco prices, they 0.1 per cent PPI advance, tem- said. These items rose by a

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EC scraps ban on new investments in S. Africa

ANC resolves unanimously to maintain Pretoria sanctions

(ANC) resolved Saturday to continue pressing the world to apply strict sanctions against South Africa.

The unanimous resolution by the ANC's national conference to maintain the economic stranglehold on South Africa appeared to contradict a statement by ANC President Oliver Tambo Friday that sanctions should be re-

"We...resolve that the existing sanctions package be maintained," the conference declared to thunderous applause from 1,600 delegates and hundreds of

The ANC appealed to the U.S. Congress and the European-Community (EC), holding a summit in Rome this weekend with sanctions on the agenda, to postpone any consideration of lifting the monetary, trade and cultural embargo on South Africa.

The main black movement fighting white rule said all international organisations should delay any decisions on sanctions 'until the ANC and all democratic formations inside our country...initiate discussions with them on the issues."

VIENNA (R) — Army tanks orders.

enforced an uneasy peace in

Albania's main industrial city of

Elbasan Saturday after anti-

Communist protesters tried to

storm the local Communist Party

headquarters, Albanian journal-

Six policemen were reported

injured, two seriously, in a series

of city clashes Friday as political

violence spread in Albania,

Europe's last bastion of old-style

They were attacked by stone-

throwing crowds, the Albanian

news agency (ATA) said in the first report of injuries in Elba-

san, 53 kilometres south of Tira-

ATA said demonstrators in

Elbasan and the sea port of

Durres smashed shop windows,

plundered stores and set fire to

cars. An undisclosed number of

Rampaging protesters also tried to attack Elbasan's regional

Communist Party offices, but

were checked by security forces.

by telephone from Tirana Fri-

day, said tanks had been moved

into Elbasan to quell the dis- arrested in Shkoder.

Albanian journalists, speaking

people were arrested.

The EC, which comprises the African National Congress bulk of South Africa's trading partners, is debating whether to lift some sanctions in recognition of President F.W. de Klerk's programme of apartheid reform.

The ANC said it could not endorse the lifting of sanctions while the basic institutions of apartheid were still in place and while the South African government continued to use violence and repression.

The resolution said the ANC was alarmed over orchestrated violence against defenceless citizens and the continuing ap-

plication of strict security laws. Peter Mokaba, radical ANC youth leader, told Reuters: "The people are very angry with the pace of reform. The delegates are

characterised by militancy." ANC education chief Raymond Suttner said the resolution accurately reflected the uncompromising mood of the conference, which adopted the motion behind closed doors.

The feeling of this conference is that De Klerk needs to be rewarded with mass action and

In a reference to Tambo's speech at Friday's opening of the first ANC session held inside the

Tanks out as crowds try to raid

Albania Communist Party office

"Six persons from the forces

of order were wounded by

stones. Among a police commis-

sar and a policeman are in hos-

pital," ATA said in its report,

adding several "thieves and

wrong-doers' had been

and troops had broken up anti-

government demonstrations in Durres Friday after protesters

smashed several shop windows.

the small Balkan state, the last

stronghold of Stalinist rule in

Europe, in a week that saw the

birth of its first independent

After decades of hardline,

one-party rule, Albania's Com-

opposition to a multi-party sys-

Friday's violence in Elbasan

and Durres came just a day after

troops and police quelled a riot

in the northern city of Shkoder.

Official media said 10 people

were injured and 30 were

towards eventual reunification.

The establishment of ties en-

ded four decades of hostility since

before the 1950-53 Korean War

during which Moscow armed the

vardnadze told his South Korean

counterpart Choi Ho-Joong that

Moscow wanted to contribute to

a settlement of the conflict but

also wished to maintain its tradi-

tional strong ties with the Com-

relations and broaden coopera-

tion between the Soviet Union

and (North Korea), but we also

want to develop relations with the

South," Shevardnadze's spokes-

man Vitaly Churking quoted him

"We want to contribute to im-

"We want to kep the good

Foreign Minister Eduard She-

Communist North.

munist North.

as saying.

munists nowed to popular press-

political party for 45 years.

Violent protests have swept

The agency added that police

country for 30 years, he said the already announced, and the recall for a sanctions review was a lease of all political prisoners ha sign of the ANC's willingness to discuss the issue.

"Yesterday, Tambo was trying to indicate political openness (by proposing the review). But today he himself proposed the resolution and there was spontaneous

applause," Suttner said. In Rome, EC leaders agreed Saturday to scrap the EC's ban on new investments in South Africa, German Chancellor Helmut Kohl

The investment ban is the first of the EC's sanctions to be lifted in recognition of the reforms introduced by President F.W. de Klerk to abolish apartheid.

Kohl told a news conference that the EC would lift all its sanctions against South Africa when Pretoria released all political prisoners and repealed key legislation on racial segregation.

"Prior to that, and primarily to combat unemployment, the sanction on new investment will be lifted as an act of goodwill from our side," he said.

"As an important signal for South Africa, we have raised the prospect of an easing of sanctions introduced in 1986 when the abolition of important laws.

ATA said resolutions of sup-

port for the Communist govern-

ment of President Ramiz Alia

were pouring in including many

from police and military units

promising "vigilance and alle-giance" in defending the country

"If need be we will even sacri-

fice our lives for the defence of

the lofty interests of our people

troops of the "N" military unit in

Tirana said in their resolution.

tanks appeared Friday after

buses and trucks in the centre of

Elbasan," one journalist said.

cannon. The people burned the

trouble flared in Elbasan.

Albanian journalists said

"A group of people burned

"Police intervened with water

Austrian television Friday

evening showed footage from

Albania, obtained by Yugoslav

television, of mass demonstra-

tions, a burning bus and a tank

parked in a side street. It was not

clear where the scenes were

and our beloved homeland,

against "enemies."

ure and dumped steadfast the windows of surrounding

for food shortages taken place," Kohl said.

Group Areas Act. "This declaration expressly bonours the progress made in talks between the South African

ring to the Land Act and the

Diplomats said Kohl was refer-

government and the African National Congress," Kohl said. German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher said the lifting of the ban would reward De Klerk for legalising the Afri-can National Congress (ANC), freeing its deputy leader Nelson Mandela and allowing its President Oliver Tambo to end years

in exile. Asked if Germany had taken the lead in pressing for the lifting of sanctions, Kohl replied: "There was a unanimous deci-

In Johannesburg, a spokesman for the ANC said the EC decision was against ANC interests.

But he said he was not disappointed. 'If we were disappointed none of us would be in this struggle.

We have lived with these things for many years. There is no place for disappointment in our move-ment," he said.

Cheney may cancel A-12 bomber programme

WASHINGTON (R) — U.S. Defence Secretary Dick Cheney announced Friday he will cancel the navy's troubled A-12 bomber programme in three weeks unless the navy can give him a good reason to keep it.

"The A-12 programme is in serious trouble," Cheney said in a memorandum to Navy Secretary Lawrence Garrett, portions of which the Defence Depart-

ment made public.

The A-12 is designed to re-place the A-6, which flies from aircraft carriers.

"The apparent schedule slippage, cost growth and manageramme are intolerable," Cheney wrote.

Cheney told Gartett to show cause by Jan. 4 why the prog-ramme should not be termin-The action followed by two

days the resignation of Defence Department procurement chief John Betti, who was criticised early this week by the Pentagon inspector general for failing to pursue problems with the A-12. Cheney's memo was hailed immediately by House Govern-

Chairman John Conyers, a Michigan Democrat whose committee has conducted hearings on the matter. "I congratulate secretary Cheney for his actions on the A-12," Conyers said. "We still

ment Operations Committee

need to address the cosy old boys' network in the whole \$160billion procurement system." The government is investigating potential criminal wrongdoing in connection with cost

overruns and schedule delays in the programme, the Washington Post reported earlier this week. Meanwhile the U.S. army said Friday it is cancelling develop-ment of the planned FOG-M missile designed to destroy tanks.

Shatalin blames distribution

MOSCOW (AP) — Soviet food shortages are due entirely to distribution problems and economic disarray, not a lack of food, a presidential adviser said Friday. He added that emergency steps are needed to resolve the crisis.

Foreign countries continued to ship tons of humanitarian aid to the Soviet Union, however. And at a summit meeting in Rome, the European Community (EC) Friday approved \$1 billion in emergency aid to help the Soviet economy.

The aid also is meant to bolster President Mikhail Gorbachev, who has been attacked by hardliners and radicals during the nation's economic and political turmoil

Soviet ports and borders have been swamped by the humanitarian shipments. More than 1.6 million metric tons of imported goods were waiting at ports and about 7,000 railways cars were waiting at border stations.

But Stanislav Shatalin, the presidential economic adviser, said in an interview that there was no shortage of food in the Soviet Union.

"Hunger is not an issue. There's enough food," said Shatalin. "The issue is how to find it and distribute it so that it doesn't get into the hands of the mafia, saboteurs and corrupted ele-

Black marketeers have pilfered state supplies, and the practice is fuelled by heavyhanded economic control that makes it more profitable for farmers to sell their products through unofficial channels.

Friday's Moskovskaya Pravda reported that the KGB secret police, searching Moscow warehouses for hidden food, found in one shop nearly 2 metric tons of meat, 750 cans of instant coffee and 880 pounds of butter.

The government says deliveries of most products are running 15 per cent to 11 per cent below 1989 levels, mostly due to pilfering and profiteering.

Shatalin said efforts toward economic and political change re inextricably linked with the food problem. But in the course of working out reforms, "there were things we didn't know how to do, and couldn't do, and a difficult situation emerged. And these have to be resolved by emergency measures."

Shatalin did not say what emergency measures he had in

But the term has been used in recent weeks to mean a severe crackdown on black marketeers blamed for the disappearance of food from state-run stores in Moscow, Leningrad and other cities as winter approaches.

Gorbachev ordered the KGB and other law enforcement bodies to halt pilfering, and government commissions have been formed to monitor the problem and direct the distribution of food. Workers' committees and other informal groups also are tracking food on the way to its destination, Shatalin said.

But the heart of the problem remains land ownership and the chance to produce food profitably, he said. Individuals must be given farmland from the state-owned farms and from collective farms that now can reserve only some of their product for private use.

Testimony ends at Mendes murder trial in Brazil

Communist chief calls for **Soviet Salvation Front**

MOSCOW (R) -- Ivan Poloz-kov, recognised leader of Soviet Communist hardliners, called Saturday for the formation of a "union for the salvation of the fatherland" to prevent creeping

Polozkov, Communist Party chief for the Russian Federation, the biggest Soviet republic, issued his call on the eve of a key session of the country's prime legislature expected to approve wider powers for President Mikhail Gorbachev.

The new movement, he said in the main Communist daily Pravda, should "unite patriotic and democratic forces... to establish popular control over the processes of social transformation and prevent a transition to a market system behind the backs of the workers."

Polozkov, echoing criticism of Gorbachev voiced at a session of the Soviet party's policy-setting Central Committee last Monday, said reforms had allowed "anti-Soviet and anti-Socialist elements" to take power in many parts of the country.

His call for a new organisation to oppose radicals followed a similar appeal this month by a shadowy "centrist bloc" for the removal of Gorbachev and the establishment of a "national salvation front" to run the country.

Polozkov charged that radicals - the term now widely used for reformers seeking a total change in the Soviet system — had seized control of most of the media, where even once-official organs now take a strongly independent line.

"Modern capitalism of the Western type is being widely advertised to Soviet people, but in fact the way is being opened to the domination of our domestic criminal bourgeoisie and the establishment of the rule of the mafia," Polozkov said.

His article, which made no mention of food and medical aid from Western countries now pouring into the Soviet Union. appeared amid a growing debate on whether Gorbachev himself is moving to the right.

Radicals says they fear a political crackdown under cover of measures to deal with economic chaos which has brought a major disruption of food deliveries.

Senior foreign diplomats in Moscow say they do not expect broad-scale action against radicals or the elected governments in several Soviet republics which are seeking either to secede from the union or achieve effective independence.

But the diplomats say they have been alarmed by signals that the still-Communist KGB and army leadership would like to take a stronger hand and by Gorbachev's replacement of a liberal interior minister by a

Radicals - including the leaders of Baltic Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia and former political prisoners who are now deputies to the Russian Federation parliament - say they are worried that Gorbachev wants his new powers to establish authoritarian

Alarm in Latvia that some action might be under study in Moscow to limit the powers of the republic's government and parliament has been fed by a series of calls published by Prav-

da for "order" to be restored. Latvia and Estonia are to send observer delegations to the session of the Soviet Congress of People's Deputies opening in the Kremlin Monday, arguing that if they leave their seats empty their views could be distorted.

Lithuania, where the native population is in the overwhelming majority, decided Friday not to attend the congress but President Vytautas Landsbergis sent a message wishing it success in 'strengthening democracy."

Gorbachev has made clear that he sees his priority as preventing a break-up of the country and has offered a new union treaty giving republics wider freedoms. But many of the republics say it is not enough and want control over their own re-

In a bid to prevent erosion of Moscow's control over regional economies, Gorbachev issued a decree Friday barring republics and individual enterprises from signing direct contracts with each other or with foreign part-

Khaleda Zia prepares for Bangladesh elections

DHAKA (R) — The widow of an assassinated Bangladeshi leader told supporters; Saturday to start working for elections to restore democracy following the downfall of President Hussain Mohammad Ershad.

"Unofficially the campaign has begun," Begum Khaleda Zia, leader of the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP), said at a student rally just one day after acting President Shahbuddin Ahmad set March 2 as the date

for parliamentary polls. Khaleda said the nation was grateful to the students who spearheaded the movement to oust Ershad, who resigned on Dec. 4 after weeks of strikes. demonstrations and street clashes in which at least 80 people were killed.

She urged them to return to their studies and said fighting poverty and illiteracy in one of the world's least developed countries would be a priority of a BNP government.

Many people carried pictures of her husband, Ziaur Rahman, who ruled for six years until he was shot by soldiers in 1981. Sheikh Hasina, daughter of the country's first president,

1982 and crushed many attempts to drive him out.

A senior BNP member said renewed rivalry in the upcoming end of dictatorship.

divisions," one-time Finance Minister Saifur Rahman told

"Too many expectations have been raised. Everybody will want their share and it will be impossible to meet every in-

Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, who was also assassinated, was due to address her supporters of her Awami League later Saturday.

The two women have been uneasy allies in the fight to bring down Ershad, the 60-year-old general who seized power in

He held parliamentary elec-tions in 1988 but the main opposition parties boycotted them as a sham.

campaign could damage Bangladesh even as it rejoiced in the We must forget about party

Reuters. "We need bread more than hallots "

The economy was on the verge of collapse and production had all but ground to a halt, he

proving the situation on the Ko-The breakthrough in the tor-XAPURI, Brazil (AP) - The rean peninsula and help realise tuous peace efforts followed a In testimony Friday, a young defence and prosecution prethe dream held by both North flurry of Washington meetings ranchhand caused a sensation in ting both countries to working and South." pared their final arguments

Hundreds of people planned a vigil at Mendes' grave to mark the end of the trial and to commemorate what would have been his 46th birthday.

rubber-tapper's movement opposed to the slash-and-burn destruction of the vast Amazon rain forest by ranchers and far-"We will celebrate Chico's

conviction of his killers by nightfall," said prosecution lawyer Marcio Tomaz Bastos. On Friday, the defence chose not to call any of the four witnes-

ses it had lined up to testify. The defence also waived crossexamination of two of the pro-

the tiny Xapuri courthouse when he described how Da Silva threw a barbecue to celebrate Mendes' slaying.

gave detailed testimony about the rancher. Prosecutors say the boy has

received death threats, and he has been living in hiding for nearly two years thousands of Da Silva's son and co-

defendant, Darci Alves Pereira. confessed to the shooting on the trial's opening day Wednesday... Mendes, 46, was a union leader who over the years became a

symbol of Brazil's poor andlandless. His killing galvanised international efforts to save the rain forest.

among rubber tappers to ranchers who celarent chunks of the delicate Amazon rain forest for pasture. The jungle, once cleared, rapidly loses its topsoil and becomes barren of most The burning used to clear the forest is also a factor in global

Prosecutors asked that the de-

fendants be removed from the courtroom during Genezio's

Longhini, Genezic told the fiveman, two-woman jury of his life on Alves da Süva's Parana Ranch and what happened there on Dec. 22, 1988, the day Mendes was killed.

Darci coming, running," he said softly but firmly. "Darly was waiting for him on the front porch. Darci said: 'Mendes is dead."

Genezio hung his head. "I was too frightened. I stayed in my Longhini asked him what the

"Darly answered: "The cow is

caught. Tomorrow we shall cook another for the barbecue,' Genezio told the jurors. There were gasps in the courtroom. The boy added, "Darci said he

had taken one shot." No one spoke of Mendes' murder at the barcecue next day, be said.

Longhini asked what the teenager knew about the Alves da Silva clan. Genezio, a distant relative, gave a grisly litany of killings he claimed took place during the seven years he lived on the ranch.

Once, he said, two Bolivians came up and asked for a drink of water. As they were leaving, Darci and his brother Oloci drove by and shot them to take their bags. The bodies were left by the side of the road.

Torres, the defence counsel, discounted Genezio's testimony. He said the boy had been rehearsed to testify by "leftist political organisations.

The defence, however, chose not to cross-examine Genezio.

COLUMN

Thatcher has no regrets

LONDON (AP) — In her first interview since her ouster as prime minister, Margaret Thatcher says she believes she achieved much of her vision for Britain and would not change her policies if she had her time in power again. Mrs. Thatcher, 65, resigned on Nov. 28 after 111/2 years in power when Conservative Party elders told her she could not win a party leadership election. "I have never been worried about being unpopular if I felt what I was doing was right," she said in the interview in the Dec. 17 issue of the House of Commons magazine House, copies of which were available Saturday. She added: "In general terms, I would not change any of the policies if I had my time again and no, no, no I don'. spend time regretting... "I am just getting on with the next job in hand." Mrs. Thatcher became a rank-and-file Tory legislator ir the House of Commons on her resignation. She now leads a group of Tories in the Commons called the "no turning back group." They want the government led by her successor John Major to continue with her tightmoney, pro-capitalist policies. Her protege Major, the former reasury chief in her cabinet, took over as prime minister the same day she left. Mrs. Thatcher said in the interview that it had been an uphill struggle to schieve what she wanted for Britain.

Another Monroe film 28 years after her death

LOS ANGELES (R) — Long-lost scenes of Marilyn Monroe, including one of her in the nude, have been rediscovered and made into a film that disputes the notion she was adrift and unable to work during her last months. The scenes are from Monroe's late movie effort, the uncompleted Something's Got To Give, and were stored until 1982 in a Kansas salt mine. They are incorporated in a new documentary film called Marilyn: Somethings's Got To Give. The never-shown-before footage is at odds with the widespread belief that Monroe spent the last months of her life in deep depression, said Henry Schipper, who produced, wrote and narrates the documentary film. "Not only did she look terrific, her scenes were powerful," he said. Monroe died from an overdose of pills at age 36 on Aug. 5, 1962. Her death was a suicide. About six hours of unedited footage of Something's Got To Give was stored in the Kansas mine and forgotten after her death. Schipper, looking for material for a feature film commemorating what would have been Monroe's 64th birthday, discovered the film when it was taken from the mine and stored? with boxes of other films in Hollywood. In an interview, he aid he spent six months preparing the documentary and using a painfully slow colour correcting

process on the fading film. Volunteers hide fire trucks

ROEBOURNE, Australia (AP)

- Firetrucks aren't easiest

things to hide, but Lorraine

Wielgomasz has stashed away

two of them to ensure they stay in the small outback town of Roebourne. The Western Australia state fire brigade board wants to move the trucks to Wickham, 12 kilometres away. But Mrs. Wielgomasz, captain of the local volunteer fire brigade. says that's too far to be safe. On Wednesday, she made a long stand and hid the fire engines. By Friday, she had gained widespread support from Roebourne's 2,000 residents. "All the people are behind me," she said. "They are coming up to me and telling me to keep going." Troubles began for Roebourne's 11-member volunteer fire brigade a year ago when they found properties adjoining their newly opened fire station were contaminated with asbestos. The fire brigade board was forced to close the station after a long-running dispute with the Roebourne Shire Council about cleaning up the sites. The council says it's not responsible because the contaminated land is privately owned. In a victory for Mrs. Wielgomasz, the fire board said the engines could stay in the town if a place can be found to house them. Now Mrs. Wielgomasz — who isn't prepared to give up the fire engines just yet - wants the Western Australia state government to come to the aid of Roebourne, 1,500 kilometres north of Perth.

Roh: Gorbachev will work for Korean reunification MOSCOW (R) - Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev has promised to take all the steps within his power to work towards

a news conference.

the reunification of Korea, South Korean President Roh Tae-Woo said Saturday. "President Gorbachev said it was necessary to be patient and carry on dialogue between North and South and create an atmosphere of mutual trust," Roh told

"Such an atmosphere would

allow for creation of concrete

ways leading to reunification. We were in full agreement. And President Gorbachev said that in this connection: 'I will do everything that is possible within my pow-Roh's visit, which takes place

less than three months after the two countries established diplomatic relations, was crowned Friday by a declaration commit-

Haiti election campaign closes on peaceful note

first democratically elected pres-PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP) — The campaign for the country's first democratically elected president came to a close early Saturday after about 10,000 supporters of the Rev. Jean-Bertrand Aristide, a leftist priest regarded as the frontrun-

ner, held a final rally. The campaign leading up to Sunday's election has been relatively peaceful, though sevenpeople died at an Aristide rally last week. Aristide has blamed the attack on a supporter of the ousted Duvalier family regime who promises to keep the priest from becoming president.

The election campaign by law Hundreds of international monitors prepared to watch the The election is to end decades of repressive rule and install its

Haiti's last attempt to hold democratic elections, on Nov. 29, 1987, collapsed when assassins supported by the army shot and hacked to death at least 31 people at polling stations and in the streets.

This time, the army has pledged to provide security, but sympathisers of the ousted Duvalier dictatorship are opposed to a transition to democracy. Several hundred international observers are on hand to monitor the balloting, along with 64 unarmed U.N. military advis-

came to a close at midnight Friday after the peaceful rally attended by about 10,000 Aris-

Angola, UNITA reach tentative agreement

WASHINGTON (AP) — Anti-Communist guerrillas have reached tentative agreement with the Marxist government of Angola on a plan to end 15 years of civil war, rebel leader Jonas

Savimbi said Friday. At a lengthy session Thursday under the auspices of the United States, Soviet Union and Portugal, the warring sides agreed to set a date for free elections and then immediately sign a ceasefire, Savimbi told reporters.

this week, including an unprecedented session between Savimbi and Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze. Savimbi, who until now had been vilified by the Kremlin as an anti-Communist menace, also met with President George Bush

Washington and Moscow have been pressing their allies in Angola to stop the fighting, which has killed more than 300,000 people and left the mineral-rich country in ruin.

The United States has shipped the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola, or UNITA, rebels as much as \$50 million in weapons every year since 1986. The Soviets have given the Angolan government as much as \$800 million annually, U.S. officials say.

Under the proposed agree-

ment reached Thursday, both

sides would stop sending

weapons once a ceasefire is

signed, U.S. officials said.

Saturday in the trial of a rancher charged with plotting the murder of rain forest activist Chico

Mendes was a leader of a

birthday in the morning, and the

secution's main witnesses. Defence lawyer Ruben Lopes Torres described the testimony presented by prosecution witnesses as "very tenuous" and lack-

Genezio Barbosa da Silva, 15.

He organised opposition

vegetation within a few years.

The small wooden courthouse was packed with officials and family members of the popular Mendes, the rights to whose story are being sought by film producers.

nearly five hours of testimony. Standing before Judge Adair

"I was lying in my bed. It was about 9 o'clock at night. I heard